MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

11 FEBRUARY 1985

Lebanon

Israeli planes attacked a "terrorist" base east of Shtawrah on 11 February scoring accurate hits on the targets, which included a headquarters belonging to supporters of Fatah dissident Colonel Sa'id Musa Muragha, Jerusalem radio announced. Palestinian sources cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported "great loss of life and property." The Israeli Air Force had raided a DFLP base in the same area the previous day, according to a statement by the IDF spokesman carried by IDF radio. Beirut radio said that one person was killed and two others were wounded in this attack on a "former DFLP base that is now occupied by a family." Although a military spokesman cited by Damascus radio claimed that Syrian air defenses "confronted" the Israeli planes on 10 February, Jerusalem radio reported that no shots were fired at the planes from the ground.

Meanwhile, three IDF soldiers were killed in southern Lebanon on 10 February, two of them dying from an explosion near the Israeli border at Metulla, according to ITIM and Jerusalem radio. Earlier, in a statement to *AL-SAFIR* cited by Cairo radio, an Islamic Jihad organization spokesman warned Israel that 3,000 Jihad followers are preparing to carry out suicide attacks on the Israelis in southern Lebanon. As for the progress of the Israeli withdrawal, Beirut radio announced that the Sidon-Al-Zahrani area was "completely free" of the Israeli presence on 10 February following the departure of the last border force unit to Tyre.

In the northern city of Tripoli, 10 people were killed on 10 February by a car-bomb explosion near an office belonging to the Islamic Unification Movement, Beirut radio reported. Another car-bomb killed two people in Beirut the same day, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. The chronic weakness of the Lebanese state and its Army was highlighted by President Amin al-Jumayyil in an address to deputies reported by the Voice of Lebanon. None of the Army's brigades are fully equipped, he noted, and much equipment has disappeared, including 700 vehicles. He also revealed that "no one dared to implement" the government's decision to close illegal harbors "despite my insistence." In a related development, the Directorate General of the Presidency issued a statement over Beirut radio denying "inaccurate" and "incorrect" media reportage of Al-Jumayyil's remarks to deputies.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

An announcement broadcast by Tehran radio's Arabic service on the evening of 10 February called on Iraqi civilians to evacuate Basra to avoid the artillery attack promised by Iran in retaliation for continued Iraqi shelling of Iranian residential areas.

For Iraq's part, a spokesman cited by Voice of the Masses radio warned the Iranians that Iraq will deliver "two blows for each blow" inflicted on its residential areas and will respond with "devastating strikes" if Iran shells Iraqi towns. Iraq has thus far adhered to the UN moratorium on shelling civilian areas despite its supremacy on land, at sea, in the air, and in "missile power," the spokesman declared. Iraqi communiques broadcast by Voice of the Masses and Baghdad radios over the weekend maintained that Iranian artillery was already shelling residential areas in the Basra area, causing several casualties.

Meanwhile, an Iranian military communique cited by IRNA claimed that around 350 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded at the battlefronts between 6-8 February, suffering "the heaviest blows" in the Sumar area.

Saudi Arabia

Commenting on King Fahd's current visit to the United States, Riyadh radio welcomed President Ronald Reagan's emphasis on the need to readjust his Mideast policies as a potentially "hopeful initiative" toward finding a "just and lasting" solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. The radio also welcomed the "proper timing" of the visit as a "victory" for Saudi diplomacy, adding that this could make U.S. peace moves "more dynamic and rewarding." King Fahd's talks with President Reagan are an "important part" of Saudi political strategy, which seeks to achieve "high rates of success" in regaining Arab rights without bargaining or making concessions, the radio noted earlier.

In a separate development, Saudi envoys were received by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in Tripoli and President Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus, according to JANA and Damascus television.

PLO

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Amman on 10 February for a visit during which he will meet with King Husayn and other Jordanian officials, Amman radio reported. In an arrival statement 'Arafat denied "baseless" reports that the Palestinians have rejected King Husayn's initiative for joint action, asserting that no PLO official has delivered any reply to the Jordanian Government about this subject, the radio added. 'Arafat will chair an "important" PLO Executive Committee meeting in Amman on 11 February, according to QNA.

Before his visit to Jordan, 'Arafat held talks in Tunis with four members of Israel's Progressive List for Peace, including MK's Matityahu Peled and Muhammad Mi'ari, IDF radio disclosed. Peled subsequently stated in remarks broadcast by Jerusalem radio that 'Arafat promised to provide information on Israeli MIA's, in return for which Israel has promised to allow Fahd al-Qawasimi's burial in Hebron.

Egypt: Explosion Near Israeli Embassy

Libya's JANA cited reports that an explosion in a building near the Israeli Embassy in Cairo was caused by a handgrenade which was hurled at the Embassy but missed. However, an Israeli spokesman attributed the explosion to a gas canister accident in a nearby apartment, AFP noted.

Syria

Over 6 and 1/2 million Syrians voted for Hafiz al-Asad's reelection as president, constituting 99.97 percent of the votes cast, Damascus radio announced. Radio Monte Carlo spoke of "unprecedented popular support" for Al-Asad and of a "state of euphoria" throughout the country.

Morocco

King Hassan II announced in remarks broadcast by Madrid radio that Spain will be obliged to peacefully return Ceuta and Melilla to Morocco if and when Gibraltar is returned to Spain. Many international powers would not accept Spain having "two doors" to the Straits, he pointed out, and Morocco is certain that the Soviet Union would be "the first" to support its demand for the return of Ceuta and Melilla.

Afghanistan

Soviet Operations — Soviet commandos killed about 150 civilians in attacks on villages in Nangarhar Province over the last 3 weeks, Karachi radio reported.

Foreign Relations — A DRA Foreign Ministry official informed the Pakistani charge d'affaires in Kabul that Afghanistan rejects Pakistan's "totally spiteful and unfounded" claim that Afghan aircraft attacked the southeast Arandu region of Pakistan on 5 February, Kabul radio announced. In a separate development, the PDPA Central Committee sent a telegram to the "majority" wing of the Iranian opposition Feda'iyan-e Khalq organization, congratulating the group on the 15th anniversary of its foundation, according to the radio.

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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'Arafat Urges UN To Protect Palestinians

JN091724 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1614 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has renewed his call on the United Nations to provide international protection for the Palestinian camps in Lebanon in general, and in the occupied south in particular. This came in light of the increasing dangers that are surrounding our people's camps there. These dangers can be explained by the preparations that the Zionist invasion forces, their agents, and some Arab sides are making to carry out criminal operations against our people as part of the continued declared, genocidal war. Brother leader Abu 'Ammar also held the international community responsible for protecting security in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon, which the forces hostile to our people imagine to be an easy target.

In his second message to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, brother leader Abu 'Ammar described the situation in the Palestinian camps as extremely tense as a result of the aggressive forces' preparations to commit more crimes against our militant people, to liquidate their spirit of resistance, and to force them to emigrate from Lebanon further dispersing them. Brother leader Abu 'Ammar has stressed that the PLO will use every possible means to protect its people in Lebanon.

PLO Official Denies Rejection of Jordan Proposal

GF081048 Doha QNA in Arabic 0838 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] Kuwait, 8 Feb (QNA) — Salim al-Za'nun, alias-Abu al-Adib, Fatah Central Committee member and PNC deputy chairman, has denied reports that the PLO rejected the proposals made by King Husayn of Jordan on joint Palestinian-Jordanian action in his speech at the opening session of the PNC meeting in Amman in November 1984.

In a statement to the Kuwaiti paper *AL-WATAN* published today, the Palestinian official said that the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue committee will meet in the next few days to finalize the projected method of action with Jordan on both the Arab and international levels. He asserted: "We will not allow the situation to head toward an estrangement or a split with Jordan."

Al-Za'nun said that the PLO wants a reconciliation between the ideas of a state and those of a revolution, that is, between Jordan and the PLO. "In order to achieve this, we hope that wisdom will prevail over the ideas of the two sides and that we will formulate a program for proceeding together, so that both the PLO and Jordan will jointly support a stand confronting the challenge."

Al-Za'nun expressed the hope that the Jordanian side will be convinced that Security Council Resolution 242 was finished with the failure of the mission of Gunar Jarring, the UN envoy. The PNC deputy chairman said that the past 7 years, during which Jordan dealt with two successive administrations in the United States, have resulted only in disappointment in the U.S. side — a disappointment that was expressed several times by King Husayn. "Indeed, Jordan has turned to the Soviet Union for arms," Al-Za'nun added.

AL-WATAN said that the English-language Amman daily *JORDAN TIMES* reported on 7 February that the PLO has decided to reject Jordan's call for a joint strategy for action to bring about peace in the Middle East.

PLO-Jordan Talks To Resume To Coordinate Stands

JN101725 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1614 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, said that the PLO is resuming talks with Jordan in order to coordinate stands on the region's issues.

In statements published in Beijing yesterday, Brother Abu al-Lutf pointed out that there are several proposed solutions to the Palestine question, and that one of these solutions calls for convening an international conference under UN auspices. He said that the PLO's major objectives are represented by restoring the Palestinian people's rights, including their rights to repatriation, self-determination, and establishment of an independent Palestinian state on their national soil. Brother Abu al-Lutf stressed that the PLO rejects any solution that does not guarantee the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

PLO Executive Committee To Meet in Amman 11 Feb

GF101955 Doha QNA in Arabic 1845 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Amman, 10 Feb (QNA) — The PLO Executive Committee will hold an important meeting tomorrow, Monday, under the chairmanship of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, who is expected to arrive in Amman later today.

The QNA correspondent in Amman has learned that a large number of distinguished Palestinian leaders will take part in the talks to be held with the Jordanian side to formulate a conception of the joint move and to define the future relationship between Jordan and the PLO. The Jordanian side has prepared a bill on this matter.

Arrest Warrant for PFLP's Habash Issued in Rome

LD091706 Kuwait KUNA in English 1355 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] Rome, Feb 9 (KUNA) — In a bizarre escalation of Italy's two-month internal political battle over the PLO, a Rome judge has issued a warrant for the arrest of a veteran Palestinian political leader. The Italian capital's Prosecutor Giancarlo Armani Saturday issued an international arrest warrant for the secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) Dr George Habash, judicial sources said. The move is the latest in a series of judicial steps involving the Palestinians, viewed as being closely linked to a growing inter-party controversy over Italy's relations with the PLO, of which the PFLP is a member-organization.

The prosecutor said the arrest warrant was for the "kidnapping and killing" of two Italian journalists, Graziella di Polli and Italo Ionni, who went missing in Beirut in 1980.

The warrant gave no reason why the case, dealt with by an inquiry years ago, was being linked to the PFLP. The families of the journalists have said publicly they hold Italian intelligence responsible for their fate.

It is also first time that charges have been levelled that the two missing Italians are dead — an earlier inquiry said they were probably being held in detention, after disappearing following their arrival in Beirut, purportedly to report on the Palestinian resistance in Lebanon.

The Rome prosecutor also alleged that the former head of Italian intelligence in Beirut, Colonel Stefano Giovanovi, had covered up information about the disappearance.

Giovanovi has faced similar charges in a recent controversial allegation that the PLO supplied weapons to Italy's outlawed Red Brigades, an issue over which a pro-Israeli Venice judge issued an arrest warrant for PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

The linking of the two cases, despite the absence of any publicly-announced concrete evidence for either, comes after an intense internal political debate over the Palestinians and Italy's relations with the PLO.

Prime Minister Bettino Craxi met PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in December, announcing his support for Palestinian rights and triggering a fierce reaction among pro-Israeli groups in Italy, notably in the well-connected rightist Republican Party.

The Craxi-'Arafat meeting followed an upsurge in sympathy for the Palestinians which Zionist groups here reacted to with an intensified campaign of opposition to the PLO, bringing the Middle East into an unaccustomed position of domestic political prominence.

Arab diplomats here view the judicial moves against Palestinian leaders as being part of the wider political controversy, pointing out that 'Arafat's warrant was issued on the basis of highly contentious allegations by a police informer.

They say that by branding the PLO with a terrorist label, pro-Israelis hope to turn back the tide of Italian support for the Palestinians, especially as Italy's current chairmanship of the EEC puts it in a key diplomatic position on the Middle East.

SPA Details Successful Arab Satellite Launch

LD091506 Riyadh SPA in English 1215 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] Guyana, Feb 9, SPA — The first 1,210 kilo Arab satellite was successfully put into orbit from a site at Kourou in the jungles of French Guyana. The telecommunications satellite was launched by a European Ariane-3 rocket.

Arabsat 1-A satellite will provide telephone, telex, television and radio transmissions for 22 members of the Arab league. It is first of three Arab satellites being built by Aerospatiale. The second is due to be launched by an American space shuttle later this year while the third will be kept in reserve.

The satellite's main control and command centre will be located at Dirab, northeast of Riyadh in addition to another assisting centre near the Tunisian capital. The Arab League has founded the Arabsat company based in Tunis in 1979 with a capital of 29 million U.S. dollars with Saudi Arabia contributing 26 percent of the capital.

Arab League communications ministers and senior officials from Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Jordan, Morocco, Qatar, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Kuwait, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Tunisia attended the launching ceremony beside French Science Minister Hubert Curien.

Saudi Posts, Telephones and Telegraphs Minister Alwai Darwish Kayyal expressed delight over this important event in the contemporary history of the Arab nation. Kayyal praised the efforts of HM King Fahd and his follow up of the satellite project phase by phase. He said the satellite will have a number of benefits, namely the enhancement of communications between Arab countries and quick exchange of informations and programmes. The Arabsat is deployed into a geostationary orbit, 36,000 kms from the Earth's surface. Solar energy will be supplied to the satellite via two rigid sun-oriented solar arrays measuring 20.7 meters from tip to tip.

The Arabsat orbiter, one of three being built by a consortium headed by the French aerospace firm Aerospatiale at a total cost of 134 million U.S. dollars, will be controlled from ground stations in Tunis and Dirab, near Riyadh, during its seven-year life. It will be able to serve 8,000 simultenous telephone circuits, seven television channels, in addition to a communal television channel for isolated rural areas. It will also provide telex and data transmission services, step up existing telecommunication facilities in Arab countries and extend those with the world outside.

The first ground station set up in Ra's Jarjur, Bahrain, is already operational to serve as the satellite's earth link. Several other Arab states have also developed their own ground receiving facilities. The satellite programme was developed by the Arabsat satellit communications organisation, set up in 1976 by member countries of the Arab League.

Foreign Ministers To Meet To Plan Arab Summit

GF091718 Manama WAKH in English 1630 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] Kuwait, 9 Feb (WAKH) — Political sources were quoted in Kuwait Saturday as saying that a meeting of the Arab foreign ministers will be held within the next three weeks to draft the agenda of a long-delayed Arab summit, scheduled for Riyadh, at a date to be determined later.

AL-QABAS daily quoted the sources as saying that last week's trip by Kuwaiti Deputy Premier, Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad to each of Damascus and Riyadh as well as his upcoming tour of some Arab capitals will be part of these efforts aimed at restoring Arab solidarity. The oft-delayed Arab summit has been blocked because of some marginal Arab differences. Last week, Shaykh Sabah visited Damascus and Riyadh for talks revolving round the Arab cause.

According to the paper, the sources stated that Damascus and Baghdad were responsive to proximity talks and a tentative meeting between their respective foreign ministers, Faruq al-Shar' and Tariq 'Aziz, on the sidelines of the forthcoming Arab foreign ministerial conference.

The conference will take place in the presence of several Arab foreign ministers, including Shaykh Sabah, the paper said.

PLO Radio Describes Resistance Actions in Lebanon

8 February

JN081743 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] Palestinian and nationalist Lebanese resistance men are intensifying their operations against the personnel and equipment of the Zionist occupation forces in occupied southern Lebanon, inflicting further losses in men and equipment . A resistance group launched a machinegun and rocket attack on a Zionist military position this morning near Al-Rashidiyah refugee camp in occupied Tyre. Several Zionist soldiers were killed in the attack.

Another resistance group attacked a Zionist military position this morning near Jwayya in Tyre. A number of Zionist soldiers were either killed or wounded in the attack. Another resistance group launched a katyusha rocket attack this morning against a Zionist military position in Al-Bazuriyah in occupied southern Lebanon. The Zionist position was completely destroyed, and all of its Zionist occupants were either killed or wounded. A Zionist military spokesman admitted the three operations. He said that his forces immediately carried out an extensive search- and-arrest campaign among Palestinian and Lebanese citizens in a futile attempt to capture the resistance men.

Another resistance group launched a machinegun and rocket attack against a Zionist military patrol while it was passing on the Al-'Abbasiyah road near Tyre in occupied southern Lebanon. All members of the Zionist patrol were either killed or wounded.

A Zionist soldier was captured during the attack and was transferred to a resistance base in southern Lebanon. A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operation but, as usual, did not mention his losses. He said that his forces besieged the area, carried out an extensive search, and arrested a large number of citizens on the pretext of being involved in the attack.

9 February

JN091709 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1614 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] The Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men have used rockets and machineguns to attack military positions belonging to the militas of the so-called army of southern Lebanon in the Maghdushah area of the Tyre district, in occupied southern Lebanon. The attack scored direct hits on the positions, killing or wounding all of their personnel.

The Zionsit spokesman admitted the resistance men's attack, but claimed, as usual, that the agent Lahd forces sustained no casualties. However, he said that his forces and the agent forces cordoned off the area and launched a large-scale campaign to search for the resistance men. However, these attempts were in vain.

10 February

JN101739 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1614 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] The Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men used light weapons and rockets to attack a Zionist patrol on the Burj al-Shamali road in the Tyre district today. Reports from southern Lebanon say that casualties are not yet known due to the security cordon the Zionist occupation forces have imposed on the attack area. Reports also say that ambulances rushed to the attack area, and this proves that the operation was a big one.

Another group of Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men used machineguns and rockets to attack a Zionist military patrol near the city of Tyre yesterday. The attack destroyed a Zionist half-track vehicle, and damaged another one, killing or wounding all occupants.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operation, and, as usual, declined to mention losses. He said that his forces launched immediate search campaigns, and arrested a large number of Palestinian and Lebanese citizens on the pretext of having connection with the resistance men, who withdrew safely to their bases.

PLO Radio: Zionist Vehicle Attacked in Hebron

JN101713 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1614 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Our hero revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland have resumed their painful blows to the Zionist occupation in accordance with the revolution command's instructions and decisions to escalate armed struggle inside the occupied homeland, the main arena of struggle.

The Palestinian military spokesman has announced that a group of our hero revolutionaries used incendiary bombs to attack a Zionist military vehicle on the Beersheba road in Hebron, in the occupied West Bank, yesterday. The attack destroyed the Zionist vehicle, killing or wounding its Zionist soldiers.

The Zionist enemy radio admitted the operation, and claimed, as usual, that the Zionist vehicle's personnel sustained no casualties. The spokesman said that several units from the occupation forces rushed into the area, launched a large-scale search campaign, and arrested a large number of Palestinian citizens on the pretext of having connection with the attack.

BAHRAIN

Reportage on Visit of Ecuadoran Finance Minister

Received by Amir

GF090850 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0835 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] Amir of Bahrain His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah received today Ecuadoran Finance Minister Francisco Swett who is currently visiting Bahrain. The audience was attended by Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah; Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah; Interior Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah; and Finance and National Economy Minister Ibrahim 'Abd al-Karim. The Ecuadoran finance minister arrived in Manama yesterday on an official visit to Bahrain that will last for a few days.

Joint Finance Talks Begin

GF091044 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0925 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Talks were held today between Bahraini Finance and National Economy Minister Ibrahim 'Abd al-Karim and Ecuadoran Finance and Credit Minister Francisco Swett, who is currently visiting Bahrain. During the talks, both sides agreed to expand and develop joint economic cooperation. They also reviewed the world financial situation and agreed to expand and intensify meetings between officials from the two countries.

Concludes Visit, Departs

GF101553 Manama WAKH in English 1530 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Manama, 10 Feb (WAKH) — Ecuadoran Finance Minister Francisco Swett left here after a short visit to Bahrain. Mr Swett held talks with Ibrahim 'Abd al-Karim, Bahraini minister of national economy and finance, on economic cooperation between the two countries.

KUWAIT

Mauritanian Foreign Minister Arrives 10 Feb

LD102331 Kuwait Domestic Servic in Arabic 1700 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] The Mauritanian minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, Lieutenant Colonel Ahmed Ould Minnih, arrived in Kuwait this evening on an official visit.

Received by Amir

LD111103 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Excerpt] His highness the amir received at 1100 Ahmed Ould Minnih, member of the Mauritanian Military Council for National Salvation and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, who conveyed to his highness a message from his brother the Mauritanian president, Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Ould Taya. The meeting was attended by the Mauritanian ambassador in Kuwait.

Amir's Envoy Carries Message to Iraq's Husayn

LD110954 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0919 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Text] Kuwait, 11 Feb (KUNA) — 'Abd al-Rahman Salim al-'Atiqi, adviser at the amir's office, today left here for Baghdad on a brief visit. Al-'Atiqi stated that he was carrying a message from the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. He was seen off by the Iraqi Ambassador to Kuwait 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Umar Ghani.

PLO Radio: Yasir 'Arafat Arrives in Kuwait 8 Feb

JN071711 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] arrived in Kuwait from Baghdad at dawn today on an official visit of several days. Our correspondent has learned that Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar will hold talks with the Kuwaiti amir and senior officials on the Middle East situation in general, and the Palestinian issue in particular.

Prime Minister Chairs Council of Ministers Session

LD102323 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Excerpt] The Council of Ministers today held its weekly meeting under the chairmanship of his highness the heir apparant and prime minister, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah.

The secretary general of the council, 'Abd al-'Aziz Muhammad al-Utaybi, stated that the council began its meeting by reading the two messages exchanged between his highness the amir and His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the Saudi monarch, concerning the visit of deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs and information, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, to Syria and Saudi Arabia; the letter received by his highness from the Sudanese president, Ja'far Muhammad Numayri; and also the letter received by his highness from the Somali president, Muhammad Siad Barre.

He added that his highness the heir apparant and prime minister acquainted the council with the talks of his highness the amir with the Somali first vice president and minister of defense, Lieutenant General Mohamed 'Ali Samantar. These talks covered bilateral relations between the two countries and ways to promote them. The council acquainted itself with the minutes of his highness the heir apparent and prime minister's meeting with the Somali first vice president and minister of defense and the accompanying delegation, and also the letter received by his highness from the Sudanese first vice president, Major General 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib.

Al-Utaybi said that the deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs and information, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir acquainted the council with results of his visit to the Syrian

Arab Republic and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, his meetings with President Hafiz al-Asad and His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, and the foreign ministers of the two countries, which were held within the framework of joint Kuwaiti-Saudi efforts to stop the Iraq-Iran war. Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad also acquainted the council with the results of the short visit to the country by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM on King Fahd's Visit to U.S.

GF101030 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0830 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Manama, 10 Feb (WAKH) — The Kuwaiti daily *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* affirmed today the importance of Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz's visit to the United States. It said that the importance of this visit not only lies in the issues that the Saudi king intends to discuss with U.S. President Ronald Reagan but also in the results of these negotiations.

It said: Saudi Arabia might have its own method in diplomatic work but this Saudi royal visit to Washington will be decisive. Either this time the United States tries seriously and "in a positive manner" to understand Arab demands and moves toward a balanced stance on the problems of the region, including the Palestine issue, the Gulf war, in addition to Lebanon and Golan, or else new factors will be involved and the situation will develop toward a different direction.

It explained that if the Americans did not understand what the Saudis are saying at this stage in particular then they will not understand anything the Arabs say, especially the view that seeks to maintain balanced relations with the United States. It said that it is certain that the Saudi king wants to make Washington well aware of this truth and that this should be a beginning for a reasonable U.S. policy toward Palestine and other Arab causes.

OMAN

Statement Issued on Thai Foreign Minister's Visit

GF100500 Muscat 'UMAN in Arabic 8 Feb 85 p 3

[Report on the press statement issued by the Omani Foreign Ministry at the conclusion of the visit made by the Thai delegation led by Thai Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila — date not given]

[Text] Relations between the Sultanate of Oman and the Kingdom of Thailand have been growing since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries on 30 July 1980. The Thai foreign minister's visit to the Sultanate falls within this framework. The statement noted the trade cooperation between the two countries and described it as an example of the continuous development of those good relations in various fields, particularly in the economic field. This is proof of the joint desire for cooperation between the peoples of the two friendly countries whose views regarding a number of international stances and issues are similar and who conduct their transactions with mutual respect and appreciation and effectively contribute to all the efforts exerted for the benefit of world peace and stability.

The statement said that as an expression of the sincere desire and determination to bolster the relations of the two countries, the talks that were held between the Omani side, led by Yusuf ibn 'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah, and the Thai side, led by Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila, dealt with issues supporting serious efforts to increase joint cooperation, consolidating the bonds of rapprochement between the two friendly countries and peoples, and serving their joint interests, stances and interests in regional and international arenas.

QATAR

Amir, Heir Apparent Send Messages to Khamene'i

GF110854 Doha QNA in Arabic 0845 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Text] Doha, 11 Feb (QNA) — Amir of Qatar His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani has sent a congratulatory cable to Iranian President His Excellency 'Ali Khamene'i on the anniversary of his country's national day. His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent and defense minister, sent a similar message to the Iranian president.

AL-'ARAB: Fahd's U.S. Visit 'Important' for Region

GF101329 Doha QNA in Arabic 0735 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Excerpts] Doha, 10 Feb (QNA) — A Qatari newspaper expressed the hope that the visit to the United States by His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia, which begins today, will bring results that will serve the Arabs' main problem, the Palestine issue, along with achieving peace and stability in the region. In its editorial today, the newspaper *AL-'ARAB* said that the Saudi king will affirm to U.S. President Reagan that the Arab nation cannot abandon its rights, that the U.S. stance of aligning with Israel represents the peak challenge to the Arab and Islamic world, and that a new U.S. stance is required in order to achieve peace in the region. The paper expressed its belief that the U.S.-Saudi talks will concentrate on the Iraq-Iran war, which is a threat to the stability of the region and the whole world, in order to find a solution to this problem and to keep the region free from threats. The paper said that King Fahd's visit to Washington is an important opportunity to affirm the Arabs' rejection of the hostile U.S. role and to demand that Washington maintain its role as a superpower.

SAUDI ARABIA

Commentaries on King Fahd's Visit to United States

Defense Official Stresses Importance

GF090630 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] Prince 'Abd al-Rahman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, vice minister of defense and aviation, has emphasized the importance of His Majesty King Fahd's visit to the United States which will begin tomorrow, Sunday.

His Highness said the talks with U.S. President Ronald Reagan and U.S. officials gain great importance, not only for the Kingdom but for Arab and Muslim countries also. In a press statement to be published today, his highness said: The royal visit to the United States springs from His Majesty's sincere desire to do what will serve the interest of Arab and Muslim nation on the regional and international levels, despite His Majesty's immense and many responsibilities.

His Highness Prince 'Abd al-Rahman noted that the Kingdom's wise policy, under his majesty the king, and its influential role on Arab, Muslim, and international levels have won international respect. He said: This policy, which was founded by late King 'Abd al-'Aziz has born fruitful results over the past years and under past and present circumstances.

Prince 'Abd al-Rahman noted the need to bolster relations among all countries to serve peace based on awareness of issues. He emphasized that peace cannot be achieved except by achieving a balance in treatment and interests, to serve the good of all countries.

He emphasized the need for the coherence and solidarity of Arab countries to face their fateful issues. He said the Arab world is part of the entire world, and has strategic characteristics. He emphasized the need to make use of these characteristics to serve our interest and the world's interest and to draw the world's attention to us in order to profit from this.

His Highness Prince 'Abd al-Rahman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz praised His Majesty King Fahd's speech to the delegation of the U.S.-Saudi round table trade group. He pointed out that this speech demonstrated the characteristics of the Kingdom and its strict adherence to the righteous Islamic faith as the basic foundation for this country in the present and in the future.

Riyadh Commentator Analyzes Visit

LD101935 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Analysis by 'Abdallah Salim Bakhit]

[Text] Dear brothers: Amid Arab and international interest, and a general optimism, Washington will receive today His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud. He will be the first great leader to discuss with President Ronald Reagan the conditions of the Arab and international arena following the latter's reelection as U.S. President for a second term.

The high-level interest in his majesty the king's visit to Washington, since its announcement, reveals the dimensions of the comprehensive Saudi role being carried out to attain the ambitious objectives of the Arab and Islamic nation, and to reinforce the efforts to achieve peace in the region in particular, and in the world in general.

The Kingdom is known for its consistent policy, straight course, and its wise and farsighted leaders. Owing to its weight and influence on all levels, the Kingdom is qualified to work for the sake of the nation's issues and to win over international support for the legitimacy of Arab demands, in confronting an enemy that works tirelessly to mislead world public opinion through the control of propaganda and the media, and in creating organizations that attempt to create various links and beneficial exchanges.

The proper timing of the royal visit to the United States registers a victory for Saudi Arabian diplomacy, and denies the Zionist lobby the opportunity of pressuring the American President for the benefit of the Israeli enemy. This is what makes President Ronald Reagan's moves towards a just and comprehensive Middle East peace more dynamic and rewarding.

This visit can also be considered a positive indicator of the attainment of good results through the utilization of good U.S.-Saudi relations in the service of fateful Arab issues, particularly in view of the sensitive and acute circumstances through which the region's situation is passing. The situation is more complicated due to the Israeli enemy's intransigent and continuous escalation of events which only confirm that efforts are still urgently needed to support Arab issues, particularly the question of Holy Jerusalem, the Palestinian people's legitimate demands, the Lebanese situation, and the Iraq-Iran war.

Brothers, His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud, during his previous visits abroad and at every occasion, has emphasized his conviction that there will be neither stability nor peace in the Middle East without recovering Arab rights, mainly Palestinian rights, and that the Kingdom and all Arab countries are striving for a just and fair peace in order to distance the region from the threat of foreign intervention and to establish respect for the region's sovereignty and independence. As prominent American officials have pointed out, President Reagan will seek his majesty's views on a wide range of regional and bilateral questions. They are, undoubtedly, open and frank views without any ambiguity.

The American Administration, while receiving today his majesty the king who carries the aspirations of the Arab nation, is extremely anxious to emerge with a mutual view that will preserve its credibility and reinforce the trust in it as a superpower responsible for maintaining security and peace in the Middle East region.

SPA: King's Visit 'Significant'

LD101629 Riyadh SPA in English 1248 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Riyadh, Feb 10, SPA — HM King Fahd will arrive in Washington later today at the start of an official visit to the United States during which he will meet President Ronald Reagan and senior members of the American Administration to discuss a wide range of important topics, foremost among them the Arab-Israel conflict. The visit is considered as one of the most important trips by an Arab leader to the American capital in view of HM King Fahd's wisdom and wide knowledge of his Arab and Islamic nation's causes.

Political observers have unanimously agreed that in view of the Kingdom's distinguished position and growing political and economic role as well as the personal characteristics of its leader, the

visit had become very significant. Moreover, the Arab and Islamic nation is also pinning great hopes on the visit, which will help in exposing Israel's intransigence and arrogance in the region.

SPA correspondent in Washington reported that the Saudi monarch will also hold talks with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, Treasury Secretary James Baker and Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige, as well as Secretary for National Security Affairs James McFarlane.

Riyadh Comments on Talks

LD110034 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Husayn al-'Askari commentary]

[Text] The American and international media is still stressing the importance of the visit of His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to the United States and his meeting with the American President Ronald Reagan.

Observers of international politics are paying great attention to the visit of His Majesty King Fahd to the United States. Their viewpoints are identical, stating that his majesty is a distinguished personality in the international scene because of the Kingdom's weight in international decisionmaking. Thus, the results of this visit will have repercussions not only on the field of joint cooperation between the two countries but also on many current international issues, especially as the visit of His Majesty King Fahd and his meeting with President Ronald Reagan come at a highly sensitive time owing to developments in international issues, the changes these developments have produced and which threaten relations between countries of the international community.

Among the most sensitive issues is the Arab-Israeli conflict, which has lingered for so long, a matter which should compel the sides dealing with this issue from outside the circle of those directly involved in it to be more balanced in their consideration to the reality of this issue and its essence, the Palestinian people.

What the American President has shown lately — by stressing the need for readjusting the policies of his administration — might constitute a hopeful initiative toward finding a just and lasting solution. This move, however, has slowed down and the situation has become frozen. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, under the leadership of His Majesty King Fahd, is continuing serious efforts in order to create an opportunity through which some practical and effective measures can be taken to serve the security of the region and of the whole world. This region is still facing major problems, mainly those of the Palestinian people whose difficulties increase due to continued ignorance of their problems. They are denied the chance to express themselves in the struggle to gain their legitimate rights.

Today, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, under the leadership of His Majesty King Fahd, continues its responsible role, exerts all efforts, and symbolizes joint Arab efforts. Within this framework comes the ever-increasing Arab and international interests in the visit of His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to the United States and his meeting with President Reagan. This interest symbolizes the peak of international trust in the leading role of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and its leadership in dealing with people's issues.

Dailies Comment on Visit

GF101048 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 10 Feb 85

[From the press review]

[Text] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz will begin an official visit to the United States today amid international expectation and concern. In their editorials today, a number of newspapers concentrated on this visit.

The newspapers *AL-JAZIRAH*, *AL-YAWM*, *'UKAZ*, *AL-MADINAH*, *AL-BILAD*, and *AL-NADWAH* said that the King's visit to the United States beginning today is considered a significant historic event because of its importance and various considerations through which the Kingdom's role on international and regional levels is expressed.

The papers said that the talks between his majesty the king and his excellency the U.S. President are not an ordinary or simple event, but are talks that focus attention on the Arab and Islamic levels, and on the world level.

Because of the Kingdom's clear policy and firm stance in supporting peace and justice, all countries are looking at Saudi diplomacy, under the patronage and leadership of his majesty the king, with real respect and honor. This diplomacy is based on permanent factors and strong and firm foundations that are represented in implementing the Islamic method in words and deeds, in secrecy and in public, internally on the level of the ruler and the one that is ruled externally on the level of various relations among the brethren, friends, or even with those countries which do not have relations with the Kingdom.

The papers said that the attention paid to the moves of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia through its successful leadership, with God's permission, are not strange to those who are inspired by fairness and justice. The Kingdom's role has become neccessary to overcome a number of contemporary problems on the Arab and Islamic levels.

With all his experience, patience, and maturity, His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, may God protect him, is able to bear great responsibilities as he was able to attain the respect and appreciation of all the leaders of fraternal and friendly countries. The King's visit to Washington should produce positive results which will reflect on many of the current problems on the Arab arena, mainlu the Arab and Muslim issues and the Palestinian issue.

May God bring success to our King on his auspicious trip for the benefit of the Arab and Muslim rights.

Mauritanian Foreign Minister Delivers Message

LD091129 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1108 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 9 Feb (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, viceroy, this afternoon at his royal highness's office at the royal court received the foreign minister of Mauritania, Lieutenant Colonel Ahmed Ould Minnih, who handed his royal highness a message from the Chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state Colonel Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya.

Saudi National Guard Officer Leaves for Syria

GF091042 Jeddah Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn 'Abd al-Muhsin al-Tuwayjiri, assistant deputy commander of the National Guard, left Riyadh for Damascus this morning. He is carrying a message from His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to His Excellency Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

Fahd Makes Stopover Visit in France En Route to U.S.

For Paris coverage of the stopover visit to France by King Fahd and his meeting with French presidential aide Francois de Grossouvre, see the France section of the 8 February Western Europe *DAILY REPORT*.

UAE

President Returns From Pakistan Visit 9 Feb

GF091838 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1800 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 9 Feb (WAKH) — UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan returned to Abu Dhabi this evening following a private visit to Pakistan that lasted several days. The president was accompanied by Shaykh Rashid ibn Ahmad al-Mu'alla, member of the UAE Supreme Council and ruler of Umm al-Qaywayn; Shaykh Sultan ibn Zayid; and Shaykh Hamid ibn Rashid al-Mu'alla, commander of the Umm al-Qaywayn police force.

Heir Apparent Interviewed on Gulf, World Issues

LD101142 Kuwait KUNA in English 1047 GMT 10 Feb 85

[By Salah Tayel]

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Feb 10 (KUNA) — Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and deputy commander of the UAE Armed Forces, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid Al Nuhayyan warned here Sunday against continuity of inter-Arab differences and called for an end to the Iraq-Iran war.

In an interview with KUWAIT NEWS AGENCY (KUNA) on the eve of his official visit to Kuwait scheduled to start Monday, Shaykh Khalifah stressed that it has been apparent that a decisive victory in that war is but an illusion and the continuation of the conflict is but exhausting the human and financial potentials of the two countries.

He said the GCC states are serious in their attempts to stop that drainage of resources which is threatening the two warring countries and adversely affecting the stability and security of the region.

He referred to the visit made recently by Kuwait's Deputy Premier, Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad to Damascus, stating that he hoped these efforts would convince the Iranian leaders and Iraq, which had repeatedly announced readiness to sit to the negotiating table, to stop that destructive war.

On the Arab differences and the long-delayed Arab summit conference, Shaykh Khalifah said it has been an urgent necessity that inter-Arab differences be ironed out in order to hold the Arab summit so as to coordinate efforts and unify them to confront the forthcoming stage by a unified Arab plan. On the argument that Arab differences should be resolved before the holding of the summit, Shaykh Khalifah said this will only lead to further delay of the conference, and recalled that previous Arab summits had discussed Arab problems and managed, in most cases, to reach solutions for many of them.

Answering a question on the return of Egypt to the Arab fold, Abu Dhabi's crown prince praised the leading role of Egypt in the Arab world and hailed President Husni Mubarak's stands toward Arab causes, particularly the Palestinian crisis. He also said it is certain that the next Arab summit, which aims at healing the Arab rift so as to put the Palestinian cause on the path of lasting and just settlement, "will get benefit from any positive element that realizes that goal."

Answering a question on the current situation in the international oil market and the pressure which industrial oil-consuming countries and non-OPEC producers are [words indistinct] along with oil companies, Shaykh Khalifah declared "as they are planning to reduce their dependence on oil, we also have to plan and to make all efforts possible to lessen our dependence on oil revenue." He added that the optimistic policy, based on the increase in production and prices and expanding the base of spending should (?be reconsidered). "What we want is to contemplate, analyze and draw results so as to ensure the continuation of progress in the country and to set priorities for projects which we need," Shaykh Khalifah said.

On customs duties imposed by the EEC states on their imports of petrochemicals from the Gulf states, Shaykh Khalifah pointed out that this measure was dangerous, because it aims rooting out the possibility that this region becomes a producing area in that industry. [sentence as received]

He also said the measure poses a dangerous threat to the tens of billions dollar investments spent by the Gulf states on establishing that industry. He said, however, the GCC Secretariat has started contacts with the EEC countries to reconsider that dangerous step, and warned that the GCC countries have the means to confront the challenge and protect their interests. The simplest step that the GCC countries can take, Shaykh Khalifah said, is

to impose customs due on their imports from the EEC states, and in this case the EEC will be losing a big market for their products.

In an answer to a question, Shaykh Khalifah said the UAE is currently leading a policy of diversifying the sources of arms supplies so as to ensure the continued flow of arms and equipment.

As for the possibility of launching an arms industry in the Gulf, he said this requires an advanced standard of economic development and lots of [words indistinct] work linked with the defensive plans and strategic studies which the specialized committees of the GCC Secretariat are undertaking.

On joint Kuwaiti-UAE mediation toward ending the differences between Oman and the Democratic Yemen, Shaykh Khalifah said Muscat and Aden are showing a strong will to consolidate dialogue and desire to resolve problems, adding that what is important is that the steps for normalizing relations between the two neighboring Arab countries continue on well calculated steps so as not to relapse.

Speaking about the current economic recession in the UAE, he said this is a phenomenon prevailing in industrial and developing countries, although it is more clear in the oil-producing states due to the decline in oil revenues over the past few years.

He noted that the outgoing stage has been characterized by the implementation of infrastructural projects and the construction of different installations. After all those achievements, it is time to make a re-evaluation of what has been done, to correct the march so that the economic structure becomes more solid and integrated and provide for better opportunities for investments besides setting priorities for spending, Shaykh Khalifah said.

He added that the UAE Government has formed a joint committee from the Council of Ministers and the National Federal Council to tackle the economic situation in the country, and said the results of the meetings of that committee will determine the march in future. The trend now, he further added, is for making the citizens partners in major projects, which are making reasonable income.

On the agricultural policy of the UAE, Shaykh Khalifah said there is a plan to expand land reclamation and to allow citizens to take possession of those lands by expending all possible state support to them.

He added that the UAE believes that there is no security for a country that is lacking food security. He disclosed that the UAE is now exporting some of its agricultural products to neighboring countries, and planning to set up a project for canned vegetables in Al-Ayn.

Shaykh Khalifah expressed hope that his visit to Kuwait, at the invitation of Kuwait's Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Sabah, would be a new chance for strengthening cooperation, consultation and integration between the two countries.

PDRY

Further Reportage on Visit of Bulgarian Official

Makes Statement, Departs

GF081832 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] Comrade Ivan Ganev, candidate member of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] Central Committee and Bulgarian deputy foreign minister, has ended his visit to the PDRY which lasted several days. During his visit he discussed relations between the YSP and the BCP and between the governments of the two countries.

Prior to his departure, Comrade Ivan Ganev made a statement to ANA in which he expressed his sincere satisfaction over and appreciation for the results of his visit, which will contribute toward the continuous future development of relations between the two friendly countries.

He said that he has become cognizant of the activities and achievements of the PDRY, and was honored to meet Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers. He said that Chairman 'Ali briefed him on party activities in all fields.

Comrade Ganev added that he also met with brothers at the YSP Political Bureau and discussed with them issues of mutual concern and current international situations including the Middle East, the Gulf, and Africa.

In the course of his statement, he stressed that the points of view of the two sides were identical where they were of special importance with regard to promoting the struggle of the two countries in order to ensure international peace and cooperation in addition to confronting the imperialist policy that is designed to shake the powers of peace in the world.

He pointed out that this visit has led to opening new opportunities for cementing the existing friendship on the bases of the friendship and cooperation agreement and on the bases of the agreements reached between the leaders of the two countries, Comrade Todor Zhivkov and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

In conclusion, he noted that a protocol of cooperation between the two parties for 1985-86 was signed in addition to a protocol of cooperation between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the two countries for 1985-87.

Upon leaving, he was seen off by Brother Mahmud al-Najashi, member and deputy secretary of the Central Committee, in addition to Muhammad 'Ali 'Imayah, deputy foreign minister, and Comrade Dimo Khristov Kamburov, the Bulgarian ambassador in Aden.

YAR

Further Reportage on Visit of USSR Delegation

Visits Ta'izz Project Site

GF101944 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Within the framework of his current visit to the YAR, Arnold Ryuytel, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Estonian Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the delegation accompanying him visited the southern heights project in Ta'izz today sponsored by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Officials at the project briefed him on the functions of the project in the service of agricultural development, water supply, irrigation, and agricultural production methods.

He was accompanied on this visit by Brother Muhsin al-Yusufi, the governor of Ta'izz Province and a member of the Standing Committee.

Reportage on Visit of Bulgarian Official

Arrives With Zhivkov Message

GF081842 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] Bulgarian Deputy Foreign Minister Ivan Ganev arrived in Sanaa today on an official visit to our country that will last several days. During the visit he will convey a written message from Bulgarian Chairman Todor Zhivkov to Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress. The message deals with relations between the two friendly countries, in addition to Arab and international issues of common interest.

In a statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY, the Bulgarian deputy prime minister said that during the visit he will hold talks with brother officials in the Foreign Ministry in order to exchange views on imperious issues of common interest.

Upon arrival he was received by Ahmad al-Zizani, Foreign Ministry under secretary; the charge d'affaires of the People's Republic of Bulgaria in Sanaa; and a presidential protocol representative.

Official Talks Begin

GF091830 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] Official talks between our country and the People's Republic of Bulgaria began at the Foreign Ministry today. The YAR side is led by Brother Ahmad al-'Iryani, Foreign Ministry under secretary. The Bulgarian side is led by Ivan Ganev, Bulgarian deputy foreign minister.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed bilateral relations and means of widening cooperation in various technical and economic fields. International issues of mutual concern also were discussed.

Received by President

GF101912 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, this afternoon received Bulgarian Deputy Foreign Minister Ivan Ganev, who is currently visiting our country.

He conveyed to brother president a message from His Excellency Bulgarian Chairman Todor Zhivkov on the official invitation from the Bulgarian State Council to the brother president to visit the People's Republic of Bulgaria. Brother president thankfully accepted the invitation. The date will be fixed later. Brother president asked Ivan Ganev to convey his greetings to His Excellency Chairman Todor Zhivkov and the Bulgarian leadership. He wished the friendly Bulgarian people all progress and prosperity.

During the meeting, they discussed bilateral relations between the two friendly countries and the means for promoting them. The meeting was attended by Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and member of the Standing Committee; the Bulgarian ambassador to the YAR; and Stoyanov Dimov, chief of the Arab countries department at the Bulgarian Foreign Ministry.

Received by Information Minister

GF101922 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Brother Hasan Ahmad al-Lawzi, minister of information and culture, received today Bulgarian Deputy Foreign Minister Ivan Ganev. They discussed cultural, information, and tourism relations between our country and the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the means to promote them, including the possibility of exploiting the expertise of both countries in these fields. The discussion dealt with the basic points of the information and tourism agreements now being prepared for final signature, especially the cultural agreement between the two friendly countries. Both sides affirmed the necessity of cultural cooperation as a vital element for contact among different people.

The Bulgarian deputy foreign minister praised the great developments in our country, especially in the cultural field. He expressed his appreciation for our country's foreign policy which is based on positive nonalliance. He also expressed pleasure over our cultural accomplishments, which indicate the originality of the Yemeni people.

The discussions were attended by 'Abd al-Rahman al-Akwa, ministry under secretary for the information sector, and the Bulgarian ambassador in the YAR.

Zambian President Kuanda, Delegation Visit

Arrives in Cairo

NC0991450 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] Cairo, 9 Feb (MENA) — Zambian President Kennethe Kaunda arrived in Cairo this afternoon with an accompanying delegation on a 3-day official visit to Egypt.

Mubarak, Kaunda Dinner Speeches

NC0992139 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1920 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] Cairo, 9 Feb (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has reaffirmed Egypt's strong support for the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and declared that recognition of this right is a basic and indispensable factor in the establishment of a durable and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

In a speech at a dinner banquet held tonight for Zambian President Kennethe Kaunda, President Mubarak also noted that Egypt is committed to the Palestinian people's right to make their own independent decisions, formulate their own concept of their future, and be free to chart their own course.

President Husni Mubarak expressed the hope that Jordan's dialogue with the Palestinians will bear the desired fruit and result in a unified Arab stance, to which all Arab states and friendly forces can stand committed, and will cause all influential parties to face their responsibilities.

In his speech, President Husni Mubarak called on Israel to eliminate all obstacles to peace and to take the necessary steps to initiate a dialogue without prerequisites and the logic of faits accomplis, which are inconsistent with legitimacy, justice, and the law.

President Muhammad Husni Mubarak's speech is as follows:

Dear brother and friend President Kennethe Kaunda: dear brothers:

It is with pride, friendship, and appreciation that the people of Egypt today welcomed on their good earth one of glorious Africa's most devoted sons; a lofty struggler who has become a symbol of humanitarian struggle; a person who has excelled in loyalty, sacrifice, pride, in his firm stand on righteousness, and in his adherence to principles; a man who has excelled in the heroic defense of the right of all African people to honorable and secure lives; a person who has excelled in his implementation of free choice and in the expression of independent will, free of exploitation, domination, and arbitrary actions and based on equality among all people in rights and duties, as long as they espouse the same mission and shoulder equal responsibility in the achievement of peace and progress.

We are very proud, dear friend, because we belong to the same culture as you and are proceeding, at your side, along the same path. You have been ,under all circumstances, the best companion and the most sincere friend. We have always seen in you a true reflection of honorable African values and character. We have also seen in you a unique ability to understand the movement of history, to pursue the goal of our collective lives in this world, and to strike a balance between theory and practice. In contemplating your proud record of struggle and your achievements, we grasp the full meaning of heroism and excellence. It takes persistence and courage to fight for the people's rights. One must be committed, believe in his goals and in himself, and be ready to sacrifice and continue the fight, whatever it takes. One must adapt the form of struggle to one's final goals, because it is the content that matters, not form or conventional dogma.

Since you are a true African, it was a matter of course that the scope of your struggle would transcend the boundaries of your country to embrace the cause of African people north, south, east, and west. This is how you came to play a prominent role in formulating the strategy of the confrontation countries in the southern part of the continent and to seek the consolidation of all African forces in their legitimate struggle to secure freedom and dignity.

In so doing, you have always been at the forefront of those who support the Namibian people's struggle against imperialist hegemony with action instead of words. You have firmly supported Angola and the other forces of confrontation in seeking a dialogue with all concerned parties to explore the feasibility of an agreement that might secure the rights of the fraternal African countries, protecting them from threats and aggression, and opening the way for the implementation of UN Resolution No 435. To bring all parties face to face with their responsibilities and international obligations, you hosted several meetings in February, May, and September 1984. This reflects your belief that true strugglers stop at nothing and refuse to become slaves of rhetoric and dead dogma.

With this same approach, dear brother, you have supported the Egyptian people's right to liberate their land, both on the honorable battlefield and by political means. You have also supported the right of the fraternal Palestinian people to self-determination and the establishment of a state on their own land, in which they can express their independent will and assert their own identity. Not only did you open diplomatic relations with the PLO, the sole representative of the Palestinian people, in 1984, you have also taken it upon yourself to champion their cause at every international forum, to such an extent that your name currently evokes a deep sense of gratitude in the heart of every Palestinian and Arab.

By the same token, you have played a distinguished role within the Nonaligned Movement to assert the right of the Third World to develop its resources and achieve political and economic independence, and to strike a balance between the interests of consumers, producers, and the industrial countries on one hand, and those of the developing countries, which are trying to modernize their production systems and introduce the latest technology, on the other, in the hope of establishing a new concept of international cooperation.

Dear brother and friend, we are very proud of your positions on the various regional and international issues, and we have noted

the consistency in your wise policy, which addresses the mind, rises to the level of historic responsibility, expresses faith in the inevitable triumph of the peoples' will, and offers confidence in the future.

We share your commitment to support the struggle of our brothers in South Africa against the forces of apartheid, colonialism, and imperialist domination, until the time comes when every inch of the good African soil is liberated and the march, begun in the north and south by the vanguards of the liberation movement, whose banners have been raised by the African masses everywhere, is completed.

We support your stand against all foreign interference in the African Continent's affairs and against all attempts to incite disagreement and conflict among the people. No contradiction in interests or goals can exist among the African people.

We also work together to strengthen the Nonaligned Movement and to increase its international effectiveness, particularly given the current historic juncture; we are working to establish a new basis for balance among the various forces, to ensure against the danger of an accelerated arms race and the outbreak of a destructive nuclear war.

Together, we strongly support the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, and regard recognition of this as a basic and indispensible factor in the establishment of comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East. We uphold the Palestinian people's right to make their own independent decisions, to formulate their own views about their future, and to chart their own course.

You are aware that we are participating in efforts to promote Jordan's dialogue with the Palestinians, in the hope that it will result in the creation of a unified Arab stance, to which all Arab states and friendly forces will be committed. We also hope that this would cause all influential parties to face their responsibility and call upon Israel to fulfil its role by removing obstacles to peace and taking the necessary steps to initiate a dialogue without prerequisites and the logic of faits accomplis, which are inconsistent with legitimacy, justice, and the law.

Dear brothers and friends, we are overwhelmed with happiness at this fraternal meeting in the city that witnessed the birth of the united African movement. In this atmosphere, which is full of profound feelings of love and friendship, permit me to ask you to stand in salute to President Kennethe Kaunda, an African hero, to all of the brothers present and every member of the fraternal Zambian people, and to the friendly relations and immortal solidarity between our two countries and peoples.

President Kaunda also delivered a speech, in which he saluted the Egyptian people, noting that in the span of 37 years, they have fought four wars, struggled, and sacrificed for the inalienable right of the Palestinians to an independent state and self-determination.

The Palestinian problem, President Kaunda said, remains unresolved because of Israel's intransigence and its refusal to recognize the historical aspects of this problem. Israel, he pointed out, rejects the Palestinian state, declines to withdraw to its 1967 borders, and dismisses all proposals to restore the prior status of Jerusalem.

President Kaunda expressed his belief that the joint Mubarak-Husayn-PLO initiative will bear fruit and voiced his support for such efforts. He also praised President Husni Mubarak's efforts to promote Egypt's development and raise the standard of living of his people. I admire the statesmanship you have displayed since you took office, Kaunda said. President Kaunda also hailed the integration of Egypt and Sudan, calling it a first step toward implementation of the Lagos plan of action and a means of consolidating the OAU.

In his speech, President Kaunda expressed anxiety about the "absence of peace in the Gulf area." He said that the Iraq-Iran war is a tragedy, having created divisions in the Arab world and squandered sources of economic development. We hope that Iran will respond to the many appeals for a cease-fire and for negotiations.

The Zambian president expressed gratitude to President Mubarak and the Egyptian people for their support for the struggle of the people of South Africa and Namibia to achieve genuine democracy and independence. In this context, he emphasized that the solution lies in the elimination of racial discrimination in South Africa and the establishment of independence for Namibia.

President Kaunda praised the relations between Egypt and Zambia, adding: We remember your support for us in our role as the rear guard in the struggle of the nationalist forces of Angola, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe against the minority racist forces in those countries.

He added: We are grateful for this help and for the constant technical assistance that the Zambian people have received from Egypt. In this context, he referred to the presence of 112 Egyptian experts in Zambia, and to the considerable number of Zambian students in Egyptian universities and training institutions.

President Kaunda began his speech by thanking the president and people of Egypt for the ceremonious welcome he was given in Egypt. He noted that his visit, the fourth since Zambia's independence, is in itself a clear indication of the two countries' strong ties and of the great esteem that the Zambian people have for Egypt's leaders and people.

Talks Begin With Mubarak

NC1012357 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Official talks between President Husni Mubarak and Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda began at the Republican Palace in Al-Qubbah this morning. Meanwhile, the members of the Egyptian and Zambian delegations held a joint session of talks.

Following the talks, which lasted 3 and 1/2 hours, Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, said that the talks dealt with the future of the OAU and ways of strengthening this organization, which is a symbol of African solidarity. The talks also dealt with bilateral cooperation and means of strengthening it. The two sides also discussed the problems of Chad, Western Sahara, and Namibia.

Al-Baz To Bring Mubarak Message to Husayn

NC082110 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1945 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] Cairo, 8 Feb (MENA) — *AKHBAR AL-YAWM* reports in its 9 February edition that Dr 'Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry and director of the Presidential Office for Political Affairs, will leave for Amman tomorrow with a message from President Mubarak for Jordan's King Husayn.

The meeting between Al-Baz and King Husayn will deal with the general Arab situation, conditions in Lebanon, the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, and the contacts held with the United States in preparation for Mubarak's meeting with Reagan.

The paper writes that Al-Baz will brief his hosts on Egypt's view of the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue. This dialogue is instrumental in convincing the United States to assume the task of pressing for a change in Israel's current policies, particularly in the West Bank.

The paper also notes that King Husayn is expected in Cairo late this month for a meeting with President Mubarak before the latter's departure for the United States.

Prime Minister 'Ali Interviewed on Mideast Issues

JN082101 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1923 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Interview with Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali by Cairo correspondent Huda Tawfiq, within the weekly "It Happened Tomorrow" program; date and place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Tawfiq] Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, before President Husni Mubarak and several other Arab leaders head for the United States, we find that the ball is in the Arab court. What is required of the Arabs?

['Ali] Regarding the Arab stand, there are two main points: the extent of agreement between Jordan and the PLO, and the Arab strategy for the sake of peace. Actually, both points have not yet been decided. During the FRG president's visit, President Mubarak said that there must be a unified Arab stand so that the others can help promote the peace efforts.

[Tawfiq] While we are on the subject of Jordanian-Palestinian coordination, how far has this coordination reached?

['Ali] It is understood that the dialogue between the organization and Jordan has continued for a long time without producing any specific results so far. I believe it is obvious that the organization, in its new form, has not adopted a firm stand or, to use another expression, that it has not yet reached a decision concerning either the form of the Palestinian-Jordanian relationship or its stand on the method of negotiations in the coming negotiations.

[Tawfiq] On what points then has there been progress?

['Ali] I believe that some points have been discussed concerning the relationship between Jordan and the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza. These matters may have been discussed in detail, but without reaching an agreement on the role of this relationship. This is the decision that the organization must make, in addition, as I said, to a decision on the method of negotiations with Jordan, or rather the formation of the delegation that will take part in the negotiations.

[Tawfiq] What is required: a joint Jordanian-Palestinian-Egyptian delegation, a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, or independent delegations?

['Ali] No doubt, Egypt prefers to have an independent delegation. However, the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue should specify the form of the delegation.

[Tawfiq] Kamal Hasan 'Ali, we find that in its contacts with Egypt, the organization always requests that Egypt become a guarantor and supporter, so that if the organization pursues this course, the Palestine question would not lose track of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights to self-determination and establishment of their state. What is our position?

['Ali] Our position is, in fact, clear. The organization is fully aware of the Egyptian position. Egypt has preserved the Palestinian people's rights at all stages in the past, even at Camp David and during the Egyptian-Israeli talks that led to the treaty between them. I recall, for instance, that Egypt has been strongly represented in the discussion of all Arab issues. On the question of autonomy, Egypt has always adopted the position that is acceptable to the Palestinians. Therefore, the Egyptian position in itself is a guarantee for the Palestinians in any future negotiations. Our interpretations of the Camp David accords and of President Reagan's initiative, and our opposition to some of the points in this initiative are the same as those of the PLO. The organization accepted some points of the Reagan initiative and rejected others. The Egyptian and Palestinian positions here were very similar.

[Tawfiq] In the near future, President Husni Mubarak will hold talks with President Reagan. Will he express the Jordanian and Palestinian viewpoints?

['Ali] Naturally, President Husni Mubarak will be fully informed of the Palestinian position. Irrespective of this knowledge, Egypt has always called for a PLO role in any future negotiations and for a dialogue between the United States and the organization, as this will involve the organization in the momentum for peace efforts.

[Tawfiq] Mr Prime Minister, [word indistinct] the Israeli stand. Israel refuses to talk with the PLO, and the United States rejects

dialogue with the PLO. In light of this complicated situation, how do you act?

['Ali] As I have said, Egypt urges the United States to hold dialogue with the PLO. Regarding the issue of recognition and nonrecognition, the PLO and Israel do not recognize each other. However, the PLO's agreement on the Fes resolution means implicit recognition of Israel. Therefore, in this case Israel should recognize the PLO, because Israel's recognition of the PLO is also the means for achieving an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue. This also facilitates matters.

[Tawfiq] Mr Prime Minister, what is being proposed as a framework for negotiations? Is it the international conference, direct negotiations, or what?

['Ali] Egypt is not against an international conference. However, we had the experience of an international conference which was attended by the two superpowers, and by Egypt and Israel, but not by the other Arab parties. We are concerned over the fact that if we start with an international conference, there would be obstacles to convening it. An international conference must be attended by all parties concerned. So far, the United States and Israel refuse to attend an international conference. If this is so, then let us begin negotiations among the parties concerned.

[Tawfiq] In any place?

['Ali] These things will be agreed on. The most important thing is the essence and not the place.

[Tawfiq] What is the essence that is being proposed?

['Ali] The essence is represented by forming a Palestinian-Jordanian delegation, by Israel adopting a more flexible stand, and by the United States contributing to Egypt's efforts to push settlement and bring viewpoints closer together. I know that they will be very difficult negotiations. However, they are necessary, because the alternative is a stalemate and this would be followed by establishing more settlements on the West Bank. If Peres has said that 60 percent of the West Bank can be regained, then I believe, in light of the establishment of more settlements — 12 settlements next year —we will negotiate on 10 percent of the territories.

[Tawfiq] Dr Kamal Hasan 'Ali, during the contacts that Egypt, the PLO, and Jordan have held so far, can we say that there is an actual beginning from which we can proceed regarding our contacts with the United States?

['Ali] Especially after the restoration of relations and full coordination between Egypt and Jordan, I believe that there is a starting point, and especially after 'Arafat's visit and the existing Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue.

[Tawfiq] So, what is the starting point on which Egypt is currently focusing?

['Ali] The starting point is the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue, as I have said, and the PLO's decisive decision, along with the presence of a U.S. Administration that has been following the situation. I believe that this is an encouraging factor for the negotiatons. This is in addition to Israeli Prime Minister Peres' flexibility. For the first time since the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, we saw that Peres mentioned the West Bank and Gaza, and not Judea and Samaria.

[Tawfiq] Mr Prime Minister, despite the Israeli prime minister's statements —with which he could win on the U.S. and European levels —the situation in the occupied territory, the West Bank, and in southern Lebanon has never been worse.

['Ali] This is true, and I believe that the Egyptian stand toward this is very clear. When Egypt calls for the Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon, improving the Palestinians' conditions in the West Bank and Gaza, and ending the border problems between Israel and Egypt —I believe that all of this is on the right course.

[Tawfiq] Is this among the proposed and [word indistinct] topics?

['Ali] Of course, because the U.S. is a party to all of this. We know the U.S. attempts regarding the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. We also know that the United States is a party in the negotiations on borders between Israel and Egypt.

[Tawfiq] During our recent contacts with the United States, have we sensed U.S. willingness toward a practical move, particularly after we noticed that the U.S. President's statement to Congress did not concentrate on the Middle East, but on other issues?

['Ali] Undoubtedly, the relationship between the two superpowers, as well as the European stand on the two sides' missiles, add a special importance to East-West relations and talks. To a certain extent this has overshadowed the Middle East crisis. Then there are the visits of King Fahd, President Husni Mubarak, and some Arab leaders to Washington. They must play their role with regard to bringing the Palestinian and Middle East issues to this level as far as Washington is concerned.

[Tawfiq] Do you believe that there should be a relation of acceptance of the principles of [words indistinct] before any negotiations? Even Israel rejected Reagan's initiative.

['Ali] It is possible to consider some positive aspects of the Reagan initiative as a basis. The Arab countries do not disagree in this regard at all. Even the organization has responded to the positive aspects and principles of the Reagan initiative. This can help in initiating serious negotiations. Moreover, there are the Fes Summit resolutions, which contain many positive points. Perhaps all of this will help to establish a starting point for beginning peace efforts.

[Tawfiq] Your excellency, the U.S. State Department spokesman said that they are willing to listen to the demands regarding military and economic aid that President Husni Mubarak will submit for Egypt. The United States has actually specified and presented aid. Is there a possibility of changing this, so that it will respond to Egypt's demands?

['Ali] I hope that the United States will respond to Egypt's demands, particularly since this year witnessed a reduction in oil

prices, which represents 20 percent of Egypt's income from oil and foreign currency. Moreover, tourism [words indistinct]. All these factors have undoubtedly affected the foreign currency situation as far as Egypt is concerned. This can be compensated by the United States.

[Tawfiq] What about the military field?

['Ali] This is also true in the military field, in light of the increase in the prices of arms. We know that Egypt possessed massive quantities of Soviet arms which have become outdated [word indistinct]. These must be replaced with other weapons in order to enable Egypt to defend itself.

[Tawfiq] [words indistinct]

['Ali] Naturally this situation continues to exist. We hope that the United States will [word indistinct] and place Egypt on an equal basis with Israel with regard to all aid. This was promised by the United States, particularly since there is a big difference between the Egyptian and Israeli per capita income. The Egyptian per capita income must be increased through development, which in turn can only be achieved through foreign currency.

[Tawfiq] Are you asserting that the United States treats Egypt and Israel differently?

['Ali] Of course. When we see what the United States gives Egypt, which has 48 million people, and Israel, which has 3.5 million people, then there is a big difference.

[Tawfiq] Will the issue of reactors be discussed with [words indistinct]?

['Ali] I believe that after the U.S. export bank's agreement and official guarantees from the FRG, as well as the French- Italian agreement to finance the nuclear power stations [words indistinct].

[Tawfiq] Concerning Arab relations, is there any progress in Arab-Egyptian relations?

['Ali] Clearly, the Arab states have not made any progress in this regard.

[Tawfiq] Concerning Lebanon, do we believe that Israel will completely withdraw from Lebanon?

['Ali] We hope that it will withdraw to its international borders, because remaining in any part of Lebanon will have a completely negative effect on Israel's position vis-a-vis the peace process as a whole.

[Tawfiq] Concerning the Tabah problem and the other suspended issues, is Egypt still taking the stand that Israel should withdraw from Lebanon, restore Tabah, and stop building settlements in order to improve relations?

['Ali] What we demanded was a complete withdrawal from Lebanon, pushing peace efforts forward, improving the conditions of the Palestinians on the West Bank and Gaza, and activating arbitration [tahkim] negotiations between us. Arbitration is considered to be binding [mulzim], and there is no need for reconciliation because this is not a binding issue.

[Tawfiq] In these three issues, has there been any new progress to show improvement in relations between Israel and Egypt?

['Ali] We are awaiting complete Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. This is the first step; then comes the arbitration, followed by improving the conditions of the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza. As for the real peace efforts, they depend on both sides, the Israeli and the Arab side — namely, Jordan and the Palestinians.

[Tawfiq] Despite this fact, there is Israeli pressure for Egypt to return its ambassador before any of the problems preventing an improvement in relations are solved?

['Ali] Egypt abides by its word. It is really interested in normalization and in pushing settlement efforts forward. However, this cannot be carried out in such an atmosphere — namely, the atmosphere of doubt concerning complete Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon — or if settlement efforts are not promoted. It cannot be carried out if Israel continues to build settlements, which the Israeli Government has recently decided to do. We are moving forward in the Tabah issue, which is good. We hope that Israel will work on these three points until normalization is restored to its former position.

'Ali Speaks on Economic Issues, Arab Relations

NC1013222 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that the government is going to take a number of measures to ease the suffering of the people.

In an interview with *AL-SIYASI* published today, the prime minister said that problems related to public services are now being dealt with. Regarding economic decisions, he said that those issued on 3 January were not complete and that the decisions made on 17 January clarified and completed the 3 January decisions. He added that other decisions will be issued this week.

The prime minister denied that some foreign financial institutions have stopped their normal credits to Egypt because of irregularity in paying off foreign debts. He stressed that Egypt is one of the first countries that repay loan installments and interests on time.

Regarding the cabinet's policy on salaries, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that any pay increase must be accompanied by an increase in production. His excellency added that the 10-day pay grant was the result of an increase in production and savings in expenditures. Regarding housing problems, he said that the state is eager to provide construction material. This requires that, on the average, 170,000 housing units should be built annually so that we can provide the necessary units within 15 years.

Regarding relations between Egpt and the Arab countries, the prime minister said that bolstering Arab solidarity is up to the Arab countries which appreciate their interest and ability to restore Arab solidarity.

Regarding President Mubarak's visit to Europe and the United States, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that during the visit the president will discuss giving an impetus to the peace efforts in the Middle East, as well as economic and military assistance to Egypt.

'Ali Views Peace Efforts, Mubarak's U.S. Visit

NC101904 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1615 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Riyadh, 10 Feb (MENA) — Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said once again that things will become more complicated if the Middle East problem is not solved this year.

He made specific reference to Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank, which are increasing each year. He said this fact makes the situation more difficult and lessens the chances of achieving peace in the region.

In an interview published in today's edition of the Saudi newspaper *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*, 'Ali was asked about efforts now being made to find a solution to the outstanding issues in the Middle East. He answered by saying that there have been no (?contacts), and that in the absence of Arab coordination, we are obviously bound to encounter some difficulties.

As for current Middle East peace initiatives, including the idea of convening an international conference, 'Ali said: The idea of an international conference has been proposed, but we believe that negotiations should be given every chance before an international conference is called. We tried an international conference before, and Egypt attended that conference. That was before Camp David and the treaty with Israel. The conference was attended by the United States, the Soviet Union, and Israel, but none of the Arab States or the PLO was present. He added that no one beyond Egypt, the United States, Israel, and the United Nations sent representatives to the Mena House conference in Cairo. 'Ali expressed the belief that the idea of an international conference will run into some trouble before agreement is reached on the general guidelines of the peace process.

Answering another question on the various Middle East peace initiatives, particularly the one proposed by U.S. President Ronald Reagan, 'Ali noted that Egypt has three stated reservations to Reagan's initiative. These pertain to the issue of Jerusalem, the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, and the question of a national homeland for the Palestinians, which would be the result of self-determination. He declared that these three items are in fact the basis of the disagreement between Egypt and the United States on the Reagan initiative. The prime minister said that if changes are made on these three points in the Reagan initiative, the chances of achieving regional peace will be improved.

On President Husni Mubarak's upcoming visit to the United States and the subjects and issues to be discussed with the U.S. President and his administration, the prime minister said: Their talks will center on efforts to settle the Middle East problem; this is what happens in all our meetings with the European states as well.

He added that Egypt's request for economic and military aid will be one of the subjects raised during President Mubarak's visit to the United States. On the recent change in Egyptian-Arab relations, the climax of which was the restoration of Egyptian-Jordanian relations, and whether any additional changes are expected now that preparations for the Arab summit conference are underway, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said: We welcome any changes that might occur. We also leave these questions to be (?decided) in time. We are watching and waiting.

In response to a question on what the Arab countries are saying about Egypt's importance and why its return is, nevertheless, delayed, the prime minister said: They say nice words, but these are baseless for one simple reason, namely, that the Arabs were not unanimous at the Baghdad summit conference. This is proven by the fact that three countries have maintained relations with Egypt since the Baghdad conference. The second point is that the Arab League's charter does not specify that any boycott, or breaking or restoration of relations must be unanimous. Unanimity is required only when a country joins the Arab League or is expelled from it. He noted that this does not apply to Egypt, and, therefore, Egypt's return to the Arabs is linked only to conditions in those Arab countries themselves.

At the end of the interview, the prime minister discussed Egypt's open-door policy. He said that in the industrial sphere, investors had come to Egypt with approximately 2 billion dollars in the last six months of 1984 to establish new industries. This figure is in contrast to the 1983 total of 730 million dollars. He said this is (?proof) of Egypt's belief in the productive open-door policy.

UKTUBAR Interviews Ghali on U.S. Role, Other Topics

PM081533 Cairo UKTUBAR in Arabic 3 Feb 85 pp 16-18

[Interview with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali by Sana' al-Sa'id; date, place not given]

[Excerpts] Al-Sa'id: In the heat of the superpower struggle for influence in the region, causes are lost and issues are confused. Bearing in mind the present realities in the United States, how do you assess the role which the United States could possibly play in the next phase?

Ghali: In the agreements concluded by Egypt, Israel, and the United States, the latter pledged to be a full partner in the peace process. In fact, the U.S. presence at last week's talks on Taba was evidence of the U.S. commitment to honor its pledge to be a full pertner. We insist on that role for many reasons. The primary reason is that Israel gets its economic, military, and diplomatic aid from the United States; this means that the United States is in a position to influence Israel's policy and direct it toward peace.

Al-Sa'id: However, has its full-partner role not been forfeited by its rejection of the idea of an international peace conference, which you are very enthusiastic about?

Ghali: The idea of an international conference was discussed at the Security Council in the past few days but the debate did not produce a consensus in support of such a conference. That does not mean that Egyptian diplomacy does not welcome the idea of an international conference, but the problem is what to do in the period preceding such a conference? That period could be long. Are we to wait and do nothing until such time when a conference is held? We might have to wait a long time. We must start making a move now to fill the diplomatic vacuum. If the parties concerned eventually agree to hold an international conference and if it were indeed held then we would welcome it, participate in it, and work for its success.

Al-Sa'id: In reference to U.S.-Soviet relations, the two superpowers are due to hold talks on the Middle East. Do you expect these talks to result in any tangible progress on the Middle East and could that lead to real Soviet participation in the peace process?

Ghali: If these talks take place and if the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their right to self-determination, are taken into consideration, then they could contribute to the promotion of a peaceful settlement of the Middle East conflict.

Al-Sa'id: Until an international conference is held, could the Reagan initiative form a practical basis for the action you speak of, particularly in the wake of the U.S. Administration's recent announcement that Reagan was preparing to revive his initiative, and Shim'on Peres' announcement that his government would be willing to consider that initiative if it was reintroduced?

Ghali: We welcomed the U.S. initiative when it was presented. At the time we sent an official memorandum dated 11 October 1982 to the U.S. secretary of state. However, we do have some reservations regarding the initiative. One main reservation concerns the fact that it does not provide for Palestinian self-determination; this is contrary to the Camp David agreements which, in more than one provision, speak of arrangements allowing the Palestinians to take part in the determination of their future, in practical terms — self-determination.

Al-Sa'id: How likely is Egypt to support the Reagan initiative completely and without reservations?

Ghali: Egypt could support the Reagan initiative without reservations if it took into consideration the observations made in the official memorandum sent by the Egyptian Government to the United States on 11 October 1982. We undoubtedly could have a dialogue with the parties concerned on the basis of the principles of the initiative.

Al-Sa'id: So what is the identity of the current Egyptian moves? Is it a U.S. identity, particularly since you still see the United States as a full partner in the peace process?

Ghali: The Egyptian moves are flexible, based on the United States as a full partner, the United Nations, the EC, and the Nonaligned Movement, in that Egyptian diplomacy works at various levels bilaterally or collectively or both.

Al-Sa'id: To what extent can the United States move to settle the region's conflicts? Does it have the ability to do so, especially in relation to the Arab-Israeli conflict in which, observers believe, it is now showing less interest?

Ghali: The United States can only contribute to tackling certain aspects of these conflicts. The rest is up to the states concerned. These states should deal with these conflicts internally. So, the matter does not solely depend on the United States. The attitudes of the main parties to the conflict are also important, especially the PLO, the Arab states, and Israel. There should be an interaction of all these elements and the outcome would help us come up with an answer. To say that the United States is fully responsible for the situation in the region and should therefore make a move to find a settlement is unrealistic and purely theoretical. The United States will act when the Arab states and the PLO move positively. Unless that happens it is unlikely that the United States would make a move. Let us not forget that, first and foremost, the cause is our own and we are the ones who have a primary interest in finding a settlement. It is wrong to blame others. We, the concerned parties in the region, bear all the responsibility. It is unreasonable of us to freeze and do nothing and at the same time ask others to act.

Al-Sa'id: Bearing in mind the present U.S. inability to set things in motion in the region, could France act as a bridge for diplomatic mediation between the interested parties?

Ghali: Because of its interest in Arab issues France could play a part in the region. The Egyptian-French draft resolution which is still on the UN Security Council's agenda is an example. The French role could be performed through the EC which issued the Venice declaration and other worthwhile documents on the Middle East.

Egyptian diplomacy calls for a European move but we believe that this should be coordinated with the United States to avoid duplicity and conflict between the U.S. and European attitudes which would not be in the interest of the Arabs. There can be no doubt that U.S.-European coordinated moves would be in the interest of the Arab cause in general and the Palestinian cause in particular. Important as it is, the French or European role could only complement the U.S. role; it is no substitute for the U.S. role.

Al-Sa'id: The majority of Arabs believe that Shim'on Peres' talk of peace is only a bait and that if Israel were to choose between peace and territory it would quickly take the territory. What is your present opinion of Israel?

Ghali: First of all I do not agree with that view. I can say that Israel's seriousness about peace depends on Israeli public opinion, which is divided into two groups on this issue. One group prefers territory to peace and believes that it can have peace and keep the territory, whereas the other group believe that Israel must withdraw from the territory if peace is to be achieved. It is difficult to say exactly which group is stronger but if the second group gains more influence it could positively influence the

decisionmakers and Shim'on Peres' policy on peace. If the other group proves to be the more influential it would be difficult for Peres to make any decision even if such a decision was in harmony with his party's policy. The ability to make decisions depends on public opinion.

Al-Sa'id: As divisions within PLO ranks continue and since Israel refuses to recognize the PLO, could the Palestinians authorize Jordan to represent them in any peace negotiations?

Ghali: This question should be addressed to the Palestinians, but my hope is that there will be complete cooperation and coordination between the Palestinian and Jordanian sides because such coordination would enable us to move. We urge the United States to begin a dialogue with the PLO. Such a dialogue would be an important step toward a just and lasting peace in the region and would open the way for mutual and simultaneous recognition between the PLO and Israel which is one of the objectives of Egyptian diplomacy.

Al-Sa'id: While we are still on the question of the Palestinians and their cause, you have been quoted as saying that the collective evacuation of Ethiopian Jews — the Falashas — to Israel was a humanitarian operation. Is that your real position?

Ghali: There is no truth in that at all. A statement I made to one reporter has been misquoted and distorted in this way. My position on that operation is quite clear. I maintain that the Falasha problem should not block the Palestinian question and that it cannot be solved at the expense of the Palestinians. There are Palestinian refugees who are more entitled to repatriation than the Falashas. It is neither fair nor logical to settle the Falashas on Palestinian territory. If the Falashas are settled in the occupied Arab territories, it would be an added obstacle to peace. That sums up my view on the Falashas operation.

Al-Sa'id: Concerning Lebanon: How do you view Israel's phased withdrawal from Lebanon? Egypt has frequently called for a complete and unconditional Israeli withdrawal. Will the current withdrawal enable the restoration of Lebanese sovereignty?

Ghali: We adhere to the provisions of UN Security Council Resolutions 508 and 509 issued a few days after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. These two resolutions were passed unanimously. The United States voted in favor of the two resolutions which stipulate that Israel must withdraw from all Lebanese territory immediately and unconditionally. These two resolutions form the basis of the Egyptian concept of a Lebanese settlement.

Bahraini Weekly Interviews Butrus Ghali

GF091736 Manama WAKH in English 1615 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] Manama, 9 Feb (WAKH) — Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali said his country was ready to work for a peaceful settlement to the Iraq-Iran war and hoped that Iran would change its mind in favour of peace efforts. In an interview published Saturday by the Bahraini weekly *AL-ADWA'*, Dr. Ghali said the Middle East problem was no longer a top priority for the U.S. Administration concern. Egyptian diplomacy has been exerting efforts to change the attitude of America and West Europe towards the Middle East problem in favour of the Palestinian rights, Dr. Ghali confirmed.

On the Egyptian-Arab relations, the Egyptian minister said that these relations were deep-rooted. He welcomed Jordan's decision to resume diplomatic relations with Egypt and hoped that the Arab countries would follow suit.

On Tabah dilemma, Dr Ghali hoped that the negotiations held between Egypt and Israel last January would make inroads towards solving the problem. Egypt confirmed that Tabah was an Egyptian land and in case of dispute the issue could be resolved through the agreement signed on April 25, 1982 and the article 7 of the peace treaty, Dr Ghali added. The Egyptian minister hoped to refer the Tabah dispute to an international arbitration besides entrusting a multi-national peace keeping force to oversee the area during the transitional period.

He confirmed his country's denunciation of Ethiopian Jew influx into occupied Palestine and said the Falasha immigration was counter to the international law.

Dr Ghali described Egyptian-Soviet relations as normal as the case with the United States.

Ghali Addresses African Disarmament Conference

NC091810 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1300 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Excerpts] Cairo, 9 Feb (MENA) — Today Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, opened the UN regional conference on disarmament meeting in Cairo 9-14 February.

Delivering his opening address, Dr Ghali said:

Ladies and gentlemen:

I am honored to open the African regional conference for disarmament, which is being held today within the international UN campaign for disarmament; to welcome an elite group of disarmament experts, who are devoting their efforts to this noble cause; and to greet Paul Luzake, the UN General Assembly chairman, who is with us today at this rally for peace.

The fact that Egypt is hosting this first African regional conference for disarmament reflects the extent of Egypt's interest in disarmament and its awareness of the need to undertake every effort to halt the arms race.

Egypt believes that world security and disarmament are inextricably interlinked. International peace and security will not be attained by the amassment of arms, the fragile balance of deterrence, or by the theories of limited nuclear war and strategic superiority. For more than 20 years now, the leaders of Africa have paid tribute to the principles of disarmament. They signed the OAU charter and in the first ordinary session of the OAU, held in Cairo in July 1964, they issued a resolution proclaiming Africa as a nuclear-free zone. This resolution was upheld by the nonaligned group's second summit in 1964, also held in Cairo,

and was endorsed by successive UN General Assembly resolutions.

The OAU member-countries have strictly abided by this decision and have refrained from any attempt to acquire nuclear arms, concentrating instead on the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. Meanwhile, however, the racist South African regime has pressed ahead with its plans to acquire nuclear weapons and to introduce them into Africa. This has aroused concern in the African and international communities, because of the dangers posed to the security of the African countries and to world peace by the racist South African regime's possession of a nuclear capability. Any such capability contradicts the proclamation of Africa as a nuclear-free zone.

We reiterate our full support for all of the UN General Assembly resolutions that denounce the nuclear activities undertaken by the racist regime in South Africa. We call for a halt to these activities and for the cessation of any aid that would undermine the principles implied by the proclamation of Africa as a nuclear-free zone. We also call for international inspection and control of all of the racist South African regime's nuclear installations.

In the context of the Middle East, Egypt has always shown an understanding of the need to achieve stability and security in this sensitive part of the world, as Middle East security is linked with that of Africa particularly and with world peace in more general terms. This is why Egypt pursued its 1974 initiative to render the Middle East an area free of nuclear weapons. Egypt filed a resolution with the UN General Assembly in this regard; the resolution was approved and later endorsed by successive UN resolutions. [Words indistinct] Israel continued to refuse to submit its nuclear installations to international inspection and has so far declined to join the accord on the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons. Meanwhile, all of Israel's neighboring Arab countries have signed the agreement and agreed to international inspection of their nuclear installations. This position taken by Israel has added a new dimension to the perils affecting the Middle East, Africa, and world peace. The third conference on nuclear nonproliferation is drawing near and Egypt has been nominated to chair its coming meeting in Geneva in September.

I wish, therefore, to take this occasion, as I did in my speech before the disarmament conference in Geneva last July, to reiterate our call to Israel to hasten to join the nonproliferation agreement and submit its nuclear installations to international inspection. [Words indistinct] to establish a nuclear-free zone in the Middle East, so that Israel can prove that it is really seeking peace. To reiterate, peace cannot be reconciled with the quest for nuclear arms.

Ghali, Zimbabwean Minister Discuss African Economy

NC102055 Cairo MENA in English 2005 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Cairo, Feb 10 (MENA) — Dr. Butrus Ghali, state minister for foreign affairs, conferred tonight with the visiting Zimbabwean minister of finance and planning on the economic situation in Africa and preparations for the African ministerial conference to be held late this month in Addis Ababa.

The African conference will discuss Africa's economic situation and preparations for holding Africa's economic summit conference.

Dr. Ghali also conferred with the Nigerian ambassador in Cairo on the same topics.

Dr. Ghali expressed Egypt's interest in securing the African countries aspirations through the conference.

AFP: Explosion Reported at Israeli Embassy

NC110654 Paris AFP in English 0643 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Text] Cairo, Feb 11 (AFP) — An explosion shook a building next to the Israeli Embassy here during the night, witnesses reported. The cause of the explosion on the top floor was not known. It caused a fire which was rapidly contained. Police immediately surrounded the embassy, and blocked traffic leading to it. The embassy is on the 17th floor of a building facing Cairo University, on the bank of the Nile. The entrance to the Israeli Embassy is guarded 24 hours by Egyptian security forces.

An official Israeli spokesman said later that the explosion was not aimed at the embassy. The spokesman said that first police investigations indicated that the explosion was caused by a gas canister in an apartment.

No violence has been directed at the embassy since it opened in February 1980 as a result of the 1979 peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. However, an Israeli diplomat, Tzvi Qedar, was slightly wounded in a hand when a shot was fired at him near his home in a southern suburb last June.

FRG's Von Wiezsaecker Leaves for Home 8 Feb

NC082009 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1930 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Luxor, 8 Feb (MENA) — FRG President Richard von Wiezsaecker left Luxor this evening for home after a 2-day visit to Aswan and Luxor. During his stay, he visited various points of interest, including archaeological sites, as part of his trip to Egypt.

Iraqi Health Minister Arrives 10 February

NC101809 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1735 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 10 Feb (MENA) — Iraqi Health Minister Dr Sadiq 'Allush arrived in Cairo from Baghdad this evening for a 4-day visit to Egypt at the invitation of Health Minister Dr Sabri Zaki. In an arrival statement, the Iraqi minister said he is carrying a verbal message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to President Husni Mubarak. He added that he will hold talks on cooperation in the production of medicine. Iraqi specialists in the production of medicine visited Cairo last week and praised Egypt's progress in this field. He will also hold talks with Dr Zaki and Egyptian Health Ministry officials on ways of strengthening bilateral cooperation in the health field. He will also visit a number of Cairo hospitals.

Saddam Husayn Marks Anniversary of Revolution
JN101600 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1350 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Feb (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has stated that the 8 February revolution is a prominent landmark in contemporary Iraqi history and in the history of upheavals and revolutions, since it was launched by young men who had faith in the people and the values of the Arab nation and noble Iraq.

President Saddam Husayn said this when he received the families of those who were martyred in the 8 February revolution. He added that the value of the 17-30 July Revolution is that it was the heir to all the aspirations of Iraq's upheavals and revolutions and to all efforts and sacrifices on the road toward Iraq's glory. President Saddam Husayn added: This is one of the secrets behind Iraq's current steadfastness, because an entire people — men and women of all ages — have become a vital resource for the Armed Forces and their supporters in defending Iraq. Some carry arms, while others perform their national duties in other fields in accordance with the needs and dictates of the required action for entrenching victory.

President Saddam Husayn said: It is natural to say that your sons played an honorable role in attaining what the Iraqis are enjoying now, because any results cannot be dissociated from the long history of struggle we have waged through the years. He added: It was not easy at the time to convince Armed Forces officers that civilians could carry arms and be trusted with combat missions that would facilitate launching the revolution in accordance with its objectives . However, the operation that preceded 8 February, and by this I mean the blow dealt to the dictator on Al-Rashid Street in broad daylight, convinced the revolutionaries in the Armed Forces that civilians can become military men when it is necessary to carry out a revolution and topple the dictatorial regime and the Shu'ubists [early movement in Islam which refused to recognize the privileged position of the Arabs].

Prresident Saddam Husayn added: We noticed how the people have become the vital resource for the Armed Forces, supplying them with inexhaustible resources in defending Iraq. All of this began during the 8 February 1963 revolution when the people carried arms to help the Armed Forces complete national duties dictated by the honor of Iraq and the Iraqis. President Saddam Husayn concluded: This is one of the most important factors with respect to Iraq's current steadfastness.

Thanks Mubarak for Cable
JN101607 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1550 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Feb (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has sent a cable of thanks to Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak in reply to the cable the Egyptian president sent him on the 8 February 1963 revolution anniversary. In his cable, President Saddam Husayn expressed the pride of the Iraqi people and command in the solid fraternal relations linking them to their brothers in beloved Egypt, as well as their genuine desire to promote these relations in the interest of the Arab nation and its just causes.

Foreign Ministry Hits Iran's Bombing of Civilians
JN081901 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1730 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A Foreign Ministry spokesman has stated the following:

In a speech today, the Iranian regime's President Khamene'i alleged that Iraq has resumed shelling Iranian cities. The Iranian regime's president threatened to shell Basra and other Iraqi cities.

It is well known that as far back as 1983, Iraq proposed that the two sides agree to refrain from shelling areas that are purely residential centers. Iraq has stressed and reiterated this proposal on many occasions. The Iranian side rejected this. It insisted on continuing aggression against Iraqi cities and their peaceful citizens. Under pressure from the violent Iraqi blows and the pressure exercised by the Iranian people, who are afflicted with this criminal regime's aggressive policy, the Iranian regime was forced to accept the UN secretary general's proposal that an agreement be reached, under the supervision of UN General Secretariat representatives, according to which purely residential centers would not be shelled. This agreement became effective on 12 June 1984. It was agreed, through the UN General Secretariat, that the areas covered under this agreement would be defined, and that violations would be carefully monitored.

Iraq adhered to this agreement with complete sincerity, because it was Iraq that took the initiative in reaching this agreement, because this is in accordance with its firm policy and principles of calling for comprehensive peace and respecting international agreements, and because this stems from Iraq's commitment to its promises. On the other hand, the Iranian regime continued to violate it. Therefore, Iraq rejects the Iranian regime's allegations, and affirms that it has not resorted and will never resort to shelling purely residential centers unless responding in kind. The Iranian president's allegations are a clear manifestation of the critical impasse reached by this criminal regime, which has been insisting on war and aggression for years and which has reaped only ignominious defeats and utter failures from its insistence on war. Following its utter defeat on the battlefield and its clear inability to give air cover to its units, which are massed on our borders to launch aggression and are being singed by our heroic Air Force; following the great pressure put on this regime by the Iranian people, who demand peace; and in view of its stifling isolation in this region and the world due to its insistence on continuing the war and threatening peace and stability in the region, the Iranian regime is trying to end its impasse and cover its defeats and failures by committing further crimes against the Iraqi people and those of Iran.

We issue a strong and decisive warning to the Iranian regime that we will deal two blows for each received from anyone who tries to harm our towns and the sons of our people. Despite our supremacy on land, sea, and air, and despite our supremacy in missile power [al-quwwat al-sarukhiyah], we have accepted the UN secretary general's proposals on refraining from shelling purely residential centers, because these proposals express our desires and are in harmony with our peaceful policy. However, if

the Iranian regime wants to try its bad luck again, and wants to indulge in shelling Iraqi towns and their peaceful population, we will, God willing, direct devastating strikes at it. We draw the attention of the Iranian people, the world public opinion, and the UN General Secretariat to this fact. He who warns is excused. Success comes from God.

[Dated] 8 February 1985.

Armed Forces General Command Issues Communiques

No 1,736

JN081740 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Communique No 1,736 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 8 February 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. On the glorious 8 February revolution, our Armed Forces renew their pledge to their great people and triumphant leader that they will continue the splendid struggle to preserve our frontiers and defeat aggression. On this occasion, we affirm to the Iranian rulers that any aggression on our borders, towns, or border villages in any form will be met with a devastating deterrent action; and that our Armed Forces possess the strength and means of meting just punishment to the aggressors and of forcing them to pay a high price for any recklessness on which they may embark. The following are the results of operations for last night and today:

1. Our brave helicopter pilots carried out a successful raid on enemy positions and troop concentrations east of Basra. They scored accurate, effective hits, destroying four enemy concentrations and inflicting losses in equipment and weapons. They safely returned with their planes, praise be to God.

2. Using tanks and artillery, our forward units pounded enemy positions, weapons emplacements, and vehicles east of Basra. They inflicted losses in men and weapons and destroyed two vehicles, two infantry positions, and one observation post.

3. One of our forward units in the central sector attacked enemy positions, vehicles, and weapon emplacements with artillery and other weapons, destroying one infantry position, one large vehicle, one machinegun emplacement, and one hardware stockpile.

4. One enemy soldier was killed in the Maysan sector.

5. New groups of Iranian military personnel sought refuge with our forward units in the central sector. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

6. The criminal Iranian regime shelled the Al-Thaghir area of Basra Governorate with heavy artillery, selecting civilian buildings and establishments and ignoring the agreement that was signed under UN auspices. We warn the Iranian rulers against continuing their shelling of civilian targets. We remind these ignorant rulers that not a single target in Iran can escape Iraq's devastating strikes, and that our commitment not to strike civilian targets stems from our principled position and from honoring our word in the international forums.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 8 February 1985

No 1,737

JN091736 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Communique No 1,737 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 9 February 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Through their activities, our Armed Forces express their high combat readiness and determination to destroy the remainder of the enemy's military potential. These forces are fully prepared to exact a severe punishment on the Khomeyniite clique if its ambitions and illusions prompt it to commit any folly. The following are the results of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. As an expression of Iraq's right and ability to tear up the aggressor Iranian regime's military potential, our valiant Air Force planes continue to deal successive blows to its collapsing remnants in the Maysan and east of Basra sectors, teaching the enemy the lessons it deserves and emphasizing that they will continue to strike at military targets until the Iranian regime abandons its stupid policy and hostile aims. Our aircraft carried out 111 combat missions today, after which they returned safely to base, praise be to God.

2. Some of our forward units directed their continuous fire against the enemy positions, troop concentrations, equipment, and vehicles in the operational sector east of Basra, killing 10, wounding others, destroying 2 infantry positions and 2 vehicles, damaging 2 other vehicles, and setting fire to several enemy boats. The fire could be seen with the naked eye.

3. Using artillery and other weapons, our forward units engaged some of the enemy's fortified targets in the central sector of the operational theater and managed to destroy four infantry positions, killing their occupants. They also inflicted large losses on the enemy equipment.

4. One enemy observation post was destroyed in the Maysan sector.

5. In accordance with its policy of violating international agreements and as an expression of its grudge, the Iranian regime committed a new crime when it used heavy artillery to shell the Al-Shihabi subdistrict in the central sector and the Mawzah subdistrict in the operational sector east of Basra. The shelling destroyed two houses in the Al-Shihabi subdistrict, martyring one woman and injuring an 11-year-old child, and demolished one house in the Mawazah subdistrict. The Iranian regime is held responsible for this crime. It will be punished for this crime at a time fixed by Iraq.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 9 February 1985

No 1,738
JN101748 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1705 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Communique No 1,738 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 10 February 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our Armed Forces reaffirm their complete control of all operational sectors, by inflicting losses in life and equipment on the enemy; we are determined to give certain death to the enemy if the Iranian rulers' base inclinations make them commit any foolhardy action. If they try their luck, they will find complete destruction awaiting them on Iraq's borders, thanks to God and the men's determination. The following is a roundup of the activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. With high capability, our daring helicopter gunships continued their raids against enemy positions and troop concentrations in the operational sector east of Basra by dealing crushing blows. They destroyed 1 enemy position, a steamship, and 1 observation post; killed 10 enemy soldiers and wounded others. All of our helicopter gunships returned safely to base, praise be to God.

2. Our forward units used artillery and other weapons to intensify their blows against enemy positions, weapons, vehicles, and troop movements in the operational sector east of Basra, scoring direct and effective hits. Two tubular launchers, nine infantry positions, four hardware stockpiles, two vehicles, and one observation post were destroyed, and two enemy soldiers were killed. Flames were seen and explosions heard from the positions that were hit. The enemy was also seen evacuating its losses. In another area of the sector, a group of enemy soldiers tried to approach one of our forward units' positions. Our valiant fighters confronted itwith all types of weapons, forcing it to withdraw.

3. Our forward units pounded enemy positions, observation posts, and troop movements opposite their positions in the central sector of the battlefield, inflicting losses in life and equipment, and destroying one vehicle, one observation post, one infantry position, one hardware stockpile, and one medium-caliber machine-gun, whose gunners were killed.

4. One infantry position was destroyed in the Maysan sector.

5. New Iranian military groups sought refuge with our forward units in the central sector of the battlefield and were safely evacuated to the rear.

6. Evil inclinations have become the most prominent features of the clique ruling in Iran. In a cowardly act, the enemy forces shelled two civilian areas in the Basra suburbs this morning with heavy artillery. As a result of the enemy shelling, one student was wounded and two houses were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 10 February 1985

Details of Iran's 10 Feb Shelling of Civilians
JN101156 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1142 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Feb (INA) — The INA correspondent in Basra says that the criminal Iranian regime shelled civilian areas and establishments in the Al-Shatti' and Al-Jawari villages of Al-Thaghir subdistrict in the Basra Governorate from 1315-1345 today with heavy artillery. A 17-year-old student was injured and two houses were demolished.

This is another Iranian violation of the agreement on refraining from shelling civilian targets. Iraq continues to abide by this agreement.

AL-JUMHURIYAH Interviews 'Arafat on Arab Affairs
JN090838 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0745 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Feb (INA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has described his talks with President Saddam Husayn as an example of the strategic relations that exist between Iraq and the PLO. In an interview with *AL-JUMHURIYAH* today, 'Arafat said that his meetings with Iraqi officials dealt with a comprehensive review of the Palestinian people's state of affairs inside and out of the occupied Arab territories and with developments on the Arab and international level.

'Arafat stressed that the prolongation of the Iraqi-Iranian war is detrimental to the Palestinian people's cause and struggle. He said that the end of the war will allow all guns to be used for the liberation of Arab Jerusalem. 'Arafat visited Baghdad 2 days ago.

'Arafat described Palestinian elements who are cooperating with the Syrian regime to form a substitute Palestinian front to the PLO as agent elements who, instead of working for Palestine, are now working in the interest of the Syrian intelligence service. 'Arafat explained that the Damascus rulers convened a party conference this month to form a Palestinian front that will work against the PLO, and chose a president for this front during their conference — a conference that was not attended by the Palestinian people's representatives. 'Arafat accused Syria of interfering in PLO domestic affairs, adding that the Syrian regime must understand that Palestine does not need any tutelage. 'Arafat said that contacts between the PLO, the PFLP, and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine are underway based on the PLO's desire to enhance Palestinian will.

'Arafat said that the Al-Asad-Murphy talks stipulated banning the return of Palestinian forces to southern Lebanon and Syria's commitment to safeguard the safety of northern Palestine where several densely-populated Zionist settlements are located. 'Arafat added that the Damascus talks were not restricted to only these two issues and that they covered a more serious aspect — that of seeking to sectarianize Lebanon and establishing entities there as part of a trend for generalizing sectarianism in the Arab homeland, thus fragmenting and weakening it. 'Arafat emphasized that the Palestinian resistance movement is an Arab force that is working effectively to foil this scheme.

Health Minister, Delegation Leave for Cairo

JN101750 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1740 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Feb (INA) — Iraqi Health Minister Dr Sadiq Hamid 'Allush left for Cairo this afternoon at the head of a delegation on a visit to Egypt. During this visit, the Iraqi minister will hold talks with Egyptian officials on health cooperation between the two fraternal countries and the exchange of medical expertise.

USSR Economic Delegation Arrives in Baghdad

JN102015 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2010 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Feb (INA) — Yevgeniy Ivanovich Osadchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, arrived here this evening at the head of a delegation on a week-long visit to Iraq. The USSR official will hold talks with Iraqi officials on promoting industrial cooperation between the two countries, particularly in the oil field. He will also meet with several Iraqi officials to discuss the possibilities of promoting economic, scientific, and technical cooperation.

Kuwaiti Official Sends Message to Tariq 'Aziz

JN101946 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1635 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Feb (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received Sulayman Majid al-Shahin, ambassador [words indistinct] Kuwaiti Foreign Minister's office, this morning. The Kuwaiti official delivered a written message to Tariq 'Aziz from Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs and information, concerning the current Arab situation and issues of mutual interest.

Sulayman Majid al-Shahin arrived in Baghdad last night.

AL-THAWRAH Reiterates Warning to Iranians

JN100742 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0624 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Feb (INA) — The newspaper *AL-THAWRAH* says that the Iranian strikes at Iraqi cities will prompt Iraq to retaliate forcefully and violently. In its editorial today, *AL-THAWRAH* adds that Iraq will strike and destroy, cause the earth to quiver under the feet of the Iranians, and burn the aggressors with the flames of its righteous indignation if they continue to shell Iraq's peaceful cities. The paper notes: The Iranian rulers are aware that the Iraqis are capable of carrying out their warnings any time they wish. They also know that Iraq is capable of dealing two blows for each received if an attempt is made to harm the safety and security of its cities and people.

The paper recalled Iraq's devastating strikes at Iranian targets and vital economic establishments. Surely, the paper adds, they have not forgotten our warning strikes at Khark Island and the petrochemical complex. The paper said in conclusion: Again we warn them from a strong position that our strikes will catch them unawares, and they will realize this.

Reportage on Visit by Egypt's 'Usamah al-Baz

Delivers Mubarak Message

JN0911218 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] Aqaba — His Majesty King Husayn received at the Royal Palace in Aqaba today Dr 'Usamah al-Baz, director of the Egyptian presidential office for political affairs and first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry. Dr al-Baz conveyed to his majesty a message from President Muhammad Husni Mubarak dealing with the latest political developments and the Jordanian-Egyptian moves in the international arena in the service of the Palestine question and the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. The meeting was attended by the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, the court minister, the commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, and the Egyptian ambassador in Amman. Dr al-Baz arrived in Aqaba this morning.

Meets With Officials

JN110734 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 11 Feb 85 p 1

[Text] Amman — *SAWT AL-SHA'B* — A meeting was held at the Regency Hotel yesterday between Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, minister of the court; and 'Usamah al-Baz, director of the Egyptian president's office and first under secretary of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry. Ihab Wahbih, Egyptian ambassador to Jordan, attended the meeting. Dr al-Baz and the Jordanian officials refused to divulge what took place at the meeting.

Comments on Arab Stand

JN110800 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 11 Feb 85 pp 1, 20

[Tawfiq 'Abid dispatch]

[Text] Amman — Dr 'Usamah al-Baz, director of the Egyptian president's political office and first under secretary of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry, has said that his current visit to Jordan aims at crystallizing an Arab stand that can be used to put pressure on the United States and Israel during the next few months. In an exclusive statement to *SAWT AL-SHA'B*, Dr al-Baz said that the current period is witnessing continued visits by Arab kings and presidents to Washington. These visits can be exploited to directly inform U.S. officials of this Arab stand. Dr al-Baz added: We can move now, particularly since U.S. President Ronald Reagan has begun his second term and after the United States and the USSR have begun exchanging viewpoints on the Palestinian cause, which is one of the important regional problems which could create dangerous tension in the world.

Answering a question, Dr al-Baz said: In order to crystallize an Arab stand that we can present to the United States and the international community, there should be a joint Jordanian-Palestinian step. Otherwise, our move will be restricted and incomplete. Al-Baz said: We hope that the current Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue will result in agreement on a joint formula that will be a basis for a broader Arab move in which all Arab countries which can put pressure on the United States will participate. Dr al-Baz added: We assert the importance of the time factor, because the next few months are considered decisive. If we do not make our decision and move within this period, we will lose an opportunity to test U.S. readiness and ability to begin a positive role which can deal with the situation in the region from a position that is not completely biased toward Israel. Dr al-Baz said: Without this joint Jordanian-Palestinian step, we will not have sufficient opportunity to test U.S. intentions. He said that if the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue does not result in agreement on a formula, we will continue to revolve in a vicious circle.

Dr al-Baz said: We assert the importance of the coming months and consider them vital to test the U.S. intentions toward th region. He expressed hope that Jordan and the PLO will reach a principled agreement on the basis of dialogue with the United States, the USSR, and the European community.

Al-Masri Stresses Soviet Role in Mideast Talks

JN100713 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 10 Feb 85 p 2

[By Salamah B. Ni'mat, *JORDAN TIMES* staff reporter]

[Excerpts] Amman — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri Saturday stressed the need for Soviet participation in any future Arab-Israeli negotiations for a just and permanent solution to the Middle East conflict.

Speaking during the ceremonies held to present outgoing Soviet Ambassador to Jordan Rafik Nishanov the Istiqlal Medal of the First Order, bestowed upon him by His Majesty King Husayn, Mr. al-Masri praised Moscow's support for Arab causes.

He emphasised "the identicalness of the Jordanian and Soviet policies vis-a-vis international and regional issues," the Jordanian News Agency, PETRA, said in a dispatch.

The agency quoted Mr. al-Masri as underlining "the importance of Soviet participation in any negotiations or (political) moves to find a just and permanent solution to the Middle East problem."

Responding to Mr. al-Masri's speech, Mr. Nishanov praised Jordanian-Soviet relations and reiterated his country's support of just and legitimate Arab causes, PETRA said.

Mr. al-Masri's statement Saturday came following the king's announcement last month of his intention to visit Moscow to discuss issues of mutual interests with Soviet officials.

No specific date was fixed for the king's visit.

The luncheon banquet hosted by Mr. al-Masri was attended by President of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society Bahjat al-Talhuni, President of the Foreign Relations Committee at the Lower House of Parliament Risq al-Batayinah and a number of Arab and foreign ambassadors accredited to Jordan.

PLO's Yasir 'Arafat Arrives, Makes Statement

JN102132 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Amman — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Amman this evening on a visit of several days to Jordan, during which he will meet with His Majesty King Husayn and senior officials. Following his arrival, he made a statement to a PETRA correspondent, in which he said that the Palestinians have not rejected His Majesty King Husayn's initiative and that the reports carried by some papers and news agencies on this subject are baseless.

He added: I have been surprised by such reports here in Amman, and no Palestinian official has delivered any reply to the Jordanian Government about this subject. He added: Discussions between us and the Jordanians have not stopped for 2 months, and these discussions continue at all levels. He also said: I am optimistic about these discussions.

'Arafat also expressed his satisfaction with the joint Jordanian-Palestinian moves at this stage and with the development of Jordanian-Palestinian relations at more than one level on both the Arab and international arenas.

Asked about the PLO's relations with the Arab Republic of Egypt, 'Arafat said: I have repeatedly announced that Egypt should return with all its cultural, historical, military, and human weight, so that it can occupy its natural position away from the Camp David policy. He added: Proceeding from this principle, we can say that President Husni Mubarak made large strides in this direction and that we are pleased with President Mubarak's steps.

Asked about mediation by the Good Offices Committee to end the Iraq-Iran war, 'Arafat said: Regrettably, the committee's efforts have stopped, because the Iranian side has announced that it has no desire to respond to these efforts. He added that the visit made by the chairman of the Good Offices Committee did not result in tangible results in this regard.

'Arafat was received at Amman civil airport by Sulayman 'Arar, deputy prime minister and interior minister; Shawkat Mahmud, occupied territories minister; and Aktham al-Qusus, director of protocol at the Foreign Ministry.

He was also received by 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya, PLO Executive Committee member; Najib al-Ahmad, director of the office of the commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces in Amman; and 'Ala' al-Din Husni, the PLO charge d'affaires in Amman.

Hani al-Hasan Arrives in Amman 10 Feb

JN100704 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 10 Feb 85 p 1

[Text] Hani al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member and Yasir 'Arafat's political adviser, arrived in Amman yesterday within the framework of PLO-Jordanian coordination and consultations.

Chief of Staff Receives Italian Delegation

JN101259 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Amman — Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Taib, chief of staff, received at his office at the Jordanian Armed Forces General Command this morning General (Mario Rossi), head of the delegation of teachers and students of the Italian Higher Academy for Defense Studies.

The chief of staff briefed the delegation on Jordan's defense policy and discussed with them a number of military affairs that are of interest to both countries. The delegation heard a military briefing on the development of the Jordanian Armed Forces and the tasks they carry out.

Foreign Minister Receives Delegation

JN101942 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Amman — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri met today with the delegation of Italian military generals which is currently visiting Jordan. The foreign minister briefed the Italian military delegation on the basis and principles of Jordanian foreign policy, particularly regarding the Palestinian question and the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

Al-Masri said: Jordan sees in UN Security Council Resolution 242 a basis for any peaceful solution to the Palestine question, especially since this resolution does not recognize occupation, calls on Israel to withdraw from all the occupied Arab territories, and would achieve peace in the region in return for land.

He pointed to the threats to international peace and security due to the lack of a comprehensive peaceful solution to the question.

The foreign minister added that Jordan's efforts for peace are based on legitimate rights and internationally recognized just demands, and that the lack of Israeli response will push the region, and consequently the world, to a state that would threaten world peace and security.

U.S. Congressional Delegation Arrives 10 Feb

JN102145 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] A U.S. congressional delegation arrived in Amman this evening on a visit to Jordan at the invitation of the International Affairs Society. The delegation will meet the Senate president, the speaker of the House of Representatives, the foreign minister, and the acting information minister during its visit.

The delegation will also undertake other activities, including holding a dialogue on the Middle East issue at the International Affairs Society.

The 12-member delegation was received by Dr Kamil Abu Jabir, secretary of the International Affairs Society.

AL-RA'Y on Congressional Visit

JN0900826 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 9 Feb 85 pp 1, 23

[Editorial: "The U.S. Congressional Delegation"]

[Text] A U.S. congressional delegation will arrive in Amman tomorrow to meet with a number of senior Jordanian officials and to hold talks with the International Affairs Association. Many delegations comprising U.S. representatives and senators have visited Jordan in the past. These delegations were all thoroughly briefed on the issues of the Palestine cause and were assured of Jordan's credibility in its call for achieving a just and comprehensive peace in the region. Thus, the meetings and discussions that will be held between the U.S. delegation and the competent Jordanian quarters are considered a new opportunity through which Jordan will allow a number of congressmen, who represent the American people, to see themselves the dangers of the unjust U.S. policy toward the Palestine cause and the negative effect of that stand on the peace process and the position of the United States in the region.

We should remind everybody that this new opportunity is clear proof of our desire to seek bridges for positive dialogue with the American people, despite the fact that U.S. policy does not show concern for preserving bridges with the Arabs. U.S. policy prefers to be involved in a strategic alliance with the Israeli aggressors at the expense of U.S. credibility, which has been shaken and undermined more so than ever before. In light of this outcome, the big responsibility of the U.S. congressional delegation emerges: The delegation must work to rebuild U.S. credibility in the region and to play a real role in order to correct the U.S. stand toward the Palestine cause or at least to put a limit to its extremist bias. Their participation in the meetings and discussions will help the U.S. congressmen to convey the facts to their people and to the decisionmakers in their country with a view to adopting a positive stand that will improve the U.S.' reputation in the Arab world. The congressional delegation will have the opportunity to witness the facts and it should translate this view into a fair policy.

Iraqi Civil Defense Director Ends 7-Day Visit

JN101010 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 0930 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Amman, 10 Feb (PETRA) — Brigadier General 'Imad al-Din Husayn Shabib, Iraqi civil defense director general, and his delegation left Amman for home yesterday after a week-long visit to Jordan, during which he met with a number of officials and discussed cooperation between Iraq and Jordan in the field of civil defense. The Iraqi delegation visited a number of civil defense centers, as well as cultural and historical sites in Jordan.

Planning Minister, Delegation Leave for Kuwait

JN091510 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1442 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] Amman, 9 Feb (PETRA) — Planning Minister Dr 'Abdallah al-Nusur left Amman for Kuwait today at the head of a delegation which will hold talks with officials at the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development. The talks will deal with bolstering and promoting cooperation between Jordan and the two funds. He and the officials of the two funds will also sign several agreements to finance developmental projects in Jordan, particularly in the fields of irrigation, electricity, and seismology.

JORDAN TIMES Outlines New Energy Program

JN090740 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 9 Feb 85 p 3

[By Sa'd G. Hattar, *JORDAN TIMES* staff reporter]

[Excerpts] Amman — In line with the government's drive to ease the burden of energy consumption on Jordan's economy, the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources has embarked on a scheme aimed at expanding the exploitation of crude oil and diversifying energy resources and has also launched a public awareness campaign to rationalise energy consumption in the Kingdom.

Rashad Abu Ras, director of Industrial Energy Department at the Ministry of Energy, says that the ministry has initiated several measures to implement the scheme. According to Mr. Abu Ras, the ministry has intensified oil exploration, refining all outputs of oil as long as they have economic feasibility. He says that by doing so, the ministry hopes to cut down oil imports.

Mr. Abu Ras added that the ministry is also keen to utilize alernative sources of energy such as charcoal. In this regard, the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) has conducted studies on the use of charcoal to generate electricity, Mr. Abu Ras said, adding that feasibility studies have shown that electricity generated through using charcoal costs 30 per cent less than that generated by the use of oil.

Mr. Abu Ras expects that charcoal would dominate as fuel to generate electricity in Jordan by the end of 1990. By that time, the JEA would have completed the process of building the necessary installations to produce electricity through charcoal, he said.

Moreover, the South Cement Company is conducting a feasibility study on the use of charcoal instead of oil in its kilns, Mr. Abu Ras said.

The Kingdom's energy consumption in 1984 reached about 2.73 million tonnes. In 1985, the ministry will work towards making the energy consumption growth parallel with economic development, which is expected to increase by four per cent, Mr. Abu Ras concluded.

Official on Arabsat Service to Jordan

JN091048 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 8 Feb 85 p 2

[Fathi al-'Arqan dispatch]

[Excerpts] In the first minutes of tomorrow, Saturday, Arabsat will be launched by the European rocket Ariane 3, thus placing the entire Arab world on the threshold of an advanced technologi-

cal stage in the sphere of telecommunications. On this subject, Engineer Samir al-Dajani, director of space telecommunications in the Ministry of Communications, has stated that Arabsat will be launched at 0045 tomorrow morning Jordan time.

In reply to a question on the preparedness of the principal Jordanian ground station that will deal with Arabsat, Engineer al-Dajani said that Jordan is among the first of the Arab countries that is ready to deal with this satellite as soon as it becomes operational, that the principal Jordanian ground station has been built, that the necessary checks have been made on it, and that it has been operational seince the beginning of this year.

He added: A cadre of qualified Jordanian engineers and technicians are responsible for the operation and maintenance of this ground station.

On the new services Arabsat will provide Jordan in terms of direct contacts with Arab countries, which are currently made through international satellites, Eng al-Dajani said: At present, we have direct lines to a limited number of Arab countries through Intelsat, while we have indirect lines to a large number of the rest of the Arab countries.

On the services Arabsat will provide in the sphere of television programs, Eng al-Dajani said:

Arabsat is a telecommunications satellite and not a satellite for television, but it does permit the reception of one television channel with a high-power beam for all Arab countries.

He added: Television programs will be exchanged directly through small ground stations with a diameter of 2.5 to 3 meters to serve the objectives of information, culture, and education.

In reply to a question on Jordan's preparations for small ground stations, Eng al-Dajani said: Jordan's need for such stations has not yet been defined, and attention is now being given to principal stations that provide telephone and telex services, as well as the exchange of ordinary television programs.

Journalists Send Memo on Freedom of Press to King

GF101459 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic
10 Feb 84 p 1

["Exclusive" report from Amman]

[Text] The Council of the Association of Jordanian Journalists decided at its meeting on 9 February to present a memorandum to the Jordanian king on the issue of freedom of the press and the resignation of Information Minister Layla Sharaf.

The memorandum — a copy of which will be presented to Jordanian Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat — emphasizes the importance of freedom of the press.

The memorandum lauds Layla Sharaf's stands supporting freedom of the press and the achievements of the Jordanian press during her tenure at the Information Ministry.

SAWT AL-SHA'B Questions U.S. Conference Position

JN0909135 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
9 Feb 85 pp 1, 16

[Editorial: "Our Region and Reagan's Second Term"]

[Text] In statements published recently regarding U.S. policy during Ronald Reagan's second term, U.S. Vice President George Bush has asserted that President Reagan's peace plan for the region is still a top priority of Reagan's policy. He added that any new U.S. move is meant to explore the possibilities of success in the work for peace.

When he spoke about the suggested international conference to find a solution to the crisis in the region, the vice president sounded as if the only dimension of the crisis in the region is the conflict regarding a stronger presence in the region of the two superpowers. George Bush made it clear that the United States does not view the international conference in light of its being a Soviet aspiration. He says this despite the fact that the idea for holding the conference was the basic element in the plan presented by the former Soviet president and was known as the Brezhnev plan. Ignoring this fact might be an indication of a covert U.S. acceptance of the idea, especially since George Bush's statements on Soviet-U.S. contacts can be described as positive and that the date for the meeting and preparing an agenda for the talks that may be held between the two superpowers have not yet been set.

We do not believe that any international conference, regardless of its nature, will succeed in achieving peace in this region unless the participants in that conference are in the first place concerned with achieving a continued peace. How can peace be achieved in this region if the parties to the conflict do not agree on it? How can this peace survive if the great majority of each party are not convinced of it? Our question is: What value will the suggested international conference have if the participants ignore the UN resolutions and go to the conference just to present their own ideas? Their ideas are only products of conflicting forces whose only aim is to cancel each others' ideas. In his statement to the U.S. television network PBS, His Majesty King Husayn said that the United States has a role that cannot be played by others. Therefore, the seriousness of a U.S. agreement on an international conference may not be greater than the seriousness of the U.S. position on President Reagan's plan, unless that conference is held on a clear basis agreed on by all parties, particularly the two superpowers. Unless a great deal of seriousness is achieved, peace plans, around which reports are revolving, will not achieve peace regardless of their names or the intentions of those who discuss them.

AL-DUSTUR Hopes for Change in U.S. Mideast Policy

JN1008145 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
10 Feb 85 pp 1, 18

[Editorial: "The United States Absolves Itself From Its Commitments in Advance"]

[Text] It seems that, while a number of senior U.S. officials are announcing a series of ambiguous, and at times contradictory,

stands on the Middle East issue, the United States is trying to absolve itself in advance from any commitments or promises that might emerge from the talks a number of Arab leaders are scheduled to hold with the Reagan administration in Washington.

The most interesting point in the overall stands which have been declared by White House officials during the past few days is that, while the United States is taking notice of part of its great responsibilities toward security and peace in this region, realizing it has a role to play, it insists on the traditional alternation [al-murawahah] in its Middle East policy. Moreover, it continues to ignore the time factor which has always adversely affected efforts to find a peaceful settlement in the region and aggravated the already deteriorating problems in the Middle East.

Instead of absolving itself from its commitments and leaving so many doubts about its stands, we would have liked to have seen the U.S. Administration, while it prepares to receive Saudi King Fahd and later on Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, take heed of the lessons of the past long stage during which U.S. policy was characterized by ambiguity and hesitation regarding the peace issue in the region and flagrant, intentional bias toward Israel and its expansionist aspirations. This has aborted all peace opportunities in the Middle East and exposed its peoples to further threats and bloody wars.

It is not a secret any more that the United States, which lost its credibility among the Arab region's nations and established a strategic alliance with Israel, continues to rely on deteriorating Arab differences and division that afflict the Arabs with further weakness and political retreat.

This will enable the United States — Israel's ally — to impose peace on the region with the Israeli conditions which have been fiercely rejected by the Arabs despite their unprecedented fragmentation, confused concepts, and dispersion at this stage.

While we hope that the United States will rectify its policy in this corner of the world, realize all the dangers that result from its continuing hesitation and flagrant bias toward Israel, and seize the opportunity of the Arab leaders' visit to its capital to carry out such rectification, we continue to affirm that, without an effective pan-Arab stand, pan-Arab determination, and a unified political Arab vision, Arab hopes that might be pinned on this or that country's promises will meet the same fate as numerous past promises. Moreover, under their regrettable state of affairs, the Arabs will only reap disappointment and wasted time.

JORDAN TIMES Criticizes U.S. West Bank Policy

JN1007231 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 10 Feb 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Of Eagles and Chickens"]

[Text] The rising level of Palestinian resistance in the occupied West Bank, including bombings that have killed two Israelis in the past ten days, is eliciting an increasingly harsh response from the Israeli Government.

Defence Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said his government would take all necessary measures to deal with the Palestinians, including deportation, destruction of houses, administrative detention and other such harsh measures.

We recall, a few months ago, that every other week there were news stories coming out of Washington, D.C., home of the free and the brave, roost of the ethical chickens, that the Reagan administration, and particularly Secretary of State George Shultz, were encouraging the Peres-led Israeli Government to, well, to be nice to the Palestinians living under their American-financed occupation.

Now, one supposes, Mr. Rabin is showing the world how nice he can be when his American-financed occupation of the West Bank and Gaza — the longest military occupation in the 20th Century — starts to elicit impulses of liberty from the occupied Palestinians. Uh, we think something is not quite right here, and we think the blame has to be accepted both by the Israeli Government and its financiers in the home of the free and the brave, roost of the ethical chickens.

We find it particularly strange that the American Government should spend so much time and moral energy on the return home of the South Korean opposition leader while dragging its feet on the explosive question of the occupation of Palestinian lands that it finances more or less directly, and the subsequent cycle of violence and counter-violence that is generated by the occupation.

By all means, let the world know about the South Korean opposition leader's return home. But those who claim to espouse the cause of freedom and personal liberties should flap their eagle's wings a bit harder and spread them a bit wider to include all freedomloving people throughout the world, including the Palestinians living under the Israeli occupation that relies on Washington for its regular sustenance.

Coverage of Israeli Air Raids Over Al-Biqa'

10 February Raid

NC101313 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1305 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] At approximately 1250 today, enemy Israeli planes raided some positions in Ta'labaya near Shtawrah. The number of the casualties is still unknown. It has been reported that a one-story building in Ta'labaya has been completely destroyed.

7 Persons Reportedly Injured

NC101418 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1400 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] A house was hit and seven citizens were injured in the raid carried out by Israeli warplanes on Ta'lbayah near Shtawrah. Qasim Ghunayyim, his wife, and 'Imad al-Barazi are among those injured.

1 Killed, 2 Wounded

NC101522 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1505 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] One person was killed and two others wounded in today's Israeli air raid on a DFLP [Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine] base in Ta'labaya. According to security reports, the Israeli warplanes hit a former DFLP base now occupied by a family. The reports add that a one-story building was destroyed, and that several nearby structures were damaged.

11 February Air Attack

NC111035 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Text] Reports from Al-Biqa' say that Israeli military planes raided a position belonging to Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] in Ta'lbaya at 1150 today. Earlier, Israeli planes twice flew over the Al-Biqa' area, where Syrian and Palestinian forces are stationed, drawing anti-aircraft fire.

RFL Reports 'Great Loss'

NC111048 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1035 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Text] Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine sources said Israeli warplanes raided the area between Ta'nayil and Ta'lbaya. The sources reported great loss in life and property.

Raided Palestinian Position Abandoned

NC111134 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Text] Reports from Al-Biqa' indicate that the Israeli raid was targeted against Qasr Skaf on the Ta'nayil-Ta'lbaya road. The area was empty of personnel at the time of the raid and no one approached it for fear of time bombs.

Planes Dropped Time Bombs

NC111331 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Text] Security sources said that the Israeli warplanes dropped time bombs during their raid on the area of Ta'labaya this morning. The bombs explode every now and then, thus preventing the rescue and civil defense teams from reaching the scene of the raid.

Further Developments in Cypriot Airliner Incident

Flights to Beirut Suspended

NC081506 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] Cyprus Airways announced in Beirut this afternoon that it has suspended its flights from Larnaca to Beirut until further notice. This comes in the wake of yesterday's attempted hijacking of a Cyprus Airways plane at Beirut International Airport.

Skaf Seeks Hijackers' Prosecution

NC082038 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] Acting Interior Minister Joseph Skaf sent a letter this evening to the public prosecutor at the Court of Cassation. In his note, Skaf asked that those who held the Cypriot aircraft at Beirut Airport be prosecuted in accordance with the laws in force.

RFL on Airport Security

NC081902 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] Though there had been a happy ending to the incident of the Cyprus Boeing 707 at Beirut Airport, there is a general deep concern over the extreme and flagrant anarchy prevailing at the airport. In fact, after leaving the aircraft at 9:20 pm, the five gunmen left the airport compound undisturbed, whether by the hundreds of airport security men or by investigators. Instead of arresting the assailants, the prosecutor carried out a lengthy interrogation of the nine members of the Cypriot crew and several KLM Dutch airline employees taken hostage during the operation.

On his part, the Cypriot foreign minister denied that his government had promised to release the two Lebanese detainees, saying an official communique will be issued later today.

Last night the manager of Cyprus Airways in Lebanon declared that the Cypriot Foreign Ministry had promised to respond to the hijackers' demand and release the detainees on condition that the gunmen did not harm their hostages and released the aircraft.

Reliable security sources told the CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY that the gunmen who captured the Cypriot Airways plane yesterday, burst into the runway after receiving information from party agents on the spot about the plane's arrival. The sources added that the PSP [Progressive Socialist Party] had set up an operations room at the airport, working round the clock and checking on all passenger lists.

There are now mounting demands in East Beirut for a new airport on the other side of the green line. According to information received by Radio Free Lebanon, a report has been presented to the Council of Ministers, together with the demand of Brigadier [name indistinct], head of the Airport Security Department, to [words indistinct] of anarchy in the compound. The report includes such measures as the building of a new wall around the airport's perimeter to prevent infiltration into the runway and the tarmac, the installation of modern electronic detection equipment to prevent the smuggling of arms and explosives, and finally the strengthening of the [word indistinct] of the Airport Security Department.

In a declaration exclusive to Radio Free Lebanon this morning, the Middle East Airways Chairman Salim Salam warned that if the present situation continued, the airport will find itself in an embarrassing position. Mr Salam affirmed that the airport was for all Lebanese, and the state should assume its responsibility to maintain the safety of the passengers and the security of the compound. The chairman also pointed to the lawlessness prevailing along the road leading to the airport, referring to the recent kidnapping of senior Middle East Airways official Samih Rababi.

Cyprus Authorities Threatened

NC091551 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] A committee calling itself the Executive Committee of the Black Brigades, the 6 February Martyrs Group, has said in a telephone call to the Voice of Lebanon that it kept its promise to the Cypriot Government by releasing the hijacked plane and its crew. The unidentified person who made the call said: Unless the Cypriot authorities respond to our demands and release the two people they have detained, Mahdi al-Haj Hasan and 'Arif Rayya, who have been struggling for the most honorable issue in Lebanon, that of Imam Musa al-Sadr — may God return him to Lebanon safely — we will be forced to strike at Cypriot and Libyan authorities anywhere in the world.

Jihad Threatens Attacks Against Israelis

NC091300 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] The Islamic Jihad Organization has warned Israel that 3,000 of its followers are prepared to carry out suicide operations and attack the Israeli forces in south Lebanon.

Reporting this today, *AL-SAFIR* reports that an anonymous person called the paper, claiming that he is a member of the organization. He emphasized that members of the suicide squad are prepared to drive booby-trapped cars and attack the Israeli forces' positions in the south.

Meanwhile, the organization claimed responsibility for the attack on an Israeli troop concentration near Burj al-Shamali camp, the attack which left 76 persons dead and 213 wounded. Reports said that the casualty toll of this attack reached as high as 100 persons.

2 Killed in Booby-Trapped Car Explosion

NC100939 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] 'Adnan al-Bisat and Rabah al-Mays were killed today when a booby-trapped car — a Toyota Corona — exploded on the street parallel to the Jordanian Embassy in the Verdun sector of West Beirut. A security source said that the explosion occurred when the car's engine was switched on.

10 Killed in Tripoli Car-Bomb Explosion

NC101320 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] A booby-trapped car exploded in front of one of the offices of the Islamic Unification Movement in Al-Madaris street in Tripoli at noon today. According to preliminary security reports, 10 persons were killed immediately. The number of wounded is yet unknown.

Ambulances continue to move casualties from the place of the incident. Sources said that two persons were suspicious of a Renault 12 and reported their suspicion to a roadblock of the Lebanese Army. Army personnel contacted the military expert to examine the car, but the car exploded before the expert's arrival.

UAE Embassy Damaged by Dynamite; No Casualties

NC100914 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Bursts of gunfire were heard in Beirut city center after 0100 today. It appeared later that the Army positions and residential areas came under fire from Ra's al-Nab' and the Al-Batun building where gunmen are stationed along the contact lines.

At 0130, there was a strong explosion in West Beirut off Boulevard Bisharah al-Khuri followed by clashes between unidentified groups.

As part of the attacks against diplomatic missions in West Beirut, unidentified persons in a car hurled a bundle of dynamite at the UAE Embassy in the Spinneys area in Al-Ramlah al-Bayda'. Only material damage was caused.

An explosion took place just before midnight, destroying the Muhammad al-Kibbih shops behind the Edison Movie Theatre in the Al-Hamra' area.

Al-Jumayyil Discusses Army, Security

NC1008830 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] President al-Jumayyil's frank address to Lebanese deputies at his weekly meeting has shed light on several current issues and has dotted the i's, although the president said: Whether we keep silent or not, it will be a disaster; if we keep silent we are responsible and if we talk we are adding oil to the fire.

He explained that the Army's position is generally good, despite the fact that most of its equipment has disappeared, arms shipments have been frozen in France, and arms deliveries are being awaited from the United States. Courage is needed from the ministers and leaderships for the measures adopted to control the economic and financial situation, although there is no cause for alarm. He said that there are no longer Al-Naqurah talks.

About the Army, President al-Jumayyil said that its general position is good. He noted that when he assumed power, not a single military barracks could stand on its own feet. The worst barracks were in Al-Fayyadiyah; most of it was looted during the Al-Ahdab coup attempt, and only five percent of the Army was operational. He added: We have exerted great efforts to rehabilitate the Army and to not involve it in internal battles. We decided that every province should have a brigade of 6,000 men. The national service and the Army's rearmament began in September. We decided that 70 percent of every brigade must be equipped, so that we would not be leading the Army into suicide.

He added: We gave priority to equipment over security tasks. When arms were received, a part was sent to Al-Biqa' with trainers. Arms were also sent to the 5th, 6th, and 7th Brigades in West Beirut, and along the contact lines, Al-Batrun, and in the north. All brigades received equal arms and equipment. Nevertheless, none of the brigades received the 70 percent of equipment. The 6th and 8th Brigades got the better proportion, 60 percent.

Following the 6 February events [uprising in West Beirut] all equipment of the 6th Brigade was looted; 50 percent of the equipment was later recovered, while the rest was taken to Al-Shuf or sold. The 8th Brigade lost 10 percent of its equipment. The 7th Brigade was reequipped, but its capability was only 40 percent.

The need for equipping brigades today means that if equipment were transferred from one brigade to another, the former brigade will no longer be useful. Seven hundred vehicles have disappeared. We are compelled to hire transport vehicles. We have no equipment. We have equipment on order in France and in the United States, but no deliveries have been made. We have 250 personnel carriers in the United States for which payment has been made.

President al-Jumayyil said: A minister has threatened France against delivering Army equipment to the Lebanese state. France and others have since made delivery of our arms purchases conditional on ministerial unanimity, because they are concerned about their citizens' safety in Lebanon. We only have 30 or 40 percent of our military equipment, although we have information about military preparations in Suq al-Gharb and about eyewitnesses' observance of socialists' movements in the area.

On the coastal highway security plan, President al-Jumayyil said: It is proceeding satisfactorily. We had fears about dispatching two battalions, but finally they allowed one battalion to pass through. We hope that they will kindly allow the other battalion to pass.

About Sidon, the president said: There is real accord among the various communities there. The patriotic spirit prevails in Sidon more than in any other area. This will ease things.

Regarding the dollar exchange, President al-Jumayyil said: It would be a disaster whether or not we keep silent. If we keep silent we are responsible, if we talk we add oil to the fire. The budget amounts to 10 billion Lebanese pounds, after it has been squeezed. The main revenue sources for the treasury are the harbors, electricity, water, and telephone charges, income tax, and fuel duties. There used to be only one illegal harbor, now there are several. Revenue from the harbors was supposed to amount to 3 billion Lebanese pounds for the treasury. A decision was made to regulate the operation of the harbors in Beirut, Juniyah, and Tripoli for a 1 week period, and ships were warned against entering illegal harbors. We do not want to destroy anyone's home, but we also do not want to destroy the state. However, no one dared to implement the decision despite my insistence. If the illegal harbors are closed, the income of Beirut harbor will increase. If Juniyah harbor is closed, for example, the income of Tripoli harbor will increase by about 50-60 million Lebanese pounds per month.

Thirty-six percent of electricity and water bills are not settled because of the condition prevailing in West Beirut and in the mountain. The electricity supply is being used illegally. We adopted measures which I admit were nonconformist. We allowed the people using electricity illegally to install electricity meters in their homes. All of them have installed meters, but none of them pay their bills. The problem is that the power consumed is being produced by generators operating on fuel costing the state $2 billion.

Regarding the telephones, people do not pay for their international calls. This costs the state $400 million. All of this is a disaster. If the leaders fail to correct and control this state of affair, then the current situation will further deteriorate. The fuel subsidy created a 10 billion Lebanese pound deficit in the fuel fund. If electricity, the water supply, and telephones were cut off from those who fail to pay their bills, and if controls are implemented, the dollar rate of exchange will immediately drop to nine or eight Lebanese pounds, and the atmosphere will become normal. These are not difficult measures, but the ministers need to display some courage.

Answering questions by some deputies, President al-Jumayyil said: Contrary to rumors, the Central Bank has not sacrificed a single dollar, but has gained $400,000. The United States has agreed to defer what we owe it until 1986. We are trying to obtain crude oil from Saudi Arabia. We have concluded from Saudi officials' statements, as conveyed to us, that they wonder how

they can support a state where they are suppressed. They did not say this clearly, but those who communicated these statements to us explained it as such. Saudi Arabia is attempting to avoid providing any aid under the current situation. In spite of this, they have not shut the doors yet and talks are underway. We are now discussing certain development plans with Rafiq al-Hariri. There is no reason for alarm. Lebanese currency is covered by 95 percent in gold. Some friendly countries are capable of helping us. There is no final decision regarding the $500 million from Saudi Arabia. Lebanon has no foreign debts.

Regarding the Al-Naqurah talks, President al-Jumayyil said: There is no longer Al-Naqurah.

Statements Called 'Inaccurate'

NC101232 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1147 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Statement issued by the Directorate General of the Presidency on 10 February]

[Text] Some newspapers published this morning a statement, attributed to his excellency the president, made to several deputies who visited him this week.

The Directorate General of the Presidency states that his excellency the president discussed with some deputies, as usual every week, the current affairs in the country. The Directorate General regrets that some of the statements published in some newspapers today were inaccurate and some incorrect.

The Directorate General urges the media not to involve the president in inaccurate or incorrect information. The Directorate General has repeatedly declared that it places itself at the disposal of the press to give it the news requested, particularly in relation to the president's stances on current situations.

The Directorate General of the Presidency requests the media to be accurate in conveying such stances, and to refer to the directorate directly when necessary.

Al-Najmah Square Security Plan Agreed Upon

Agreed Points Listed

NC101254 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Statement issued by the Beirut Forces Operations Command on 10 February]

[Text] At 1000 on 10 February, a meeting was held at the office of Staff Brigadier General Muhammad al-Hajj, commander of the greater Beirut operations, attended by Brigadier General Jean Nasif, representative of the Army Command; Dr John Ghanim, representative of the Lebanese Forces; Ahmad Ba'labakki, representative of the Amal movement; Sa'id al-Dawi, representative of the Progressive Socialist Party; the officers of the Beirut Forces Command; the chief of the Intelligence Branch; and the commander of the 61st Battalion.

The participants agreed on the following:

1. The deployment of the 61st Battalion within the defined area of operation.
2. There should be no gunmen in the area of operation.
3. Party offices within the area of operation must be shut down.
4. Barriers and barricades must be cleared from the area.
5. The area of operation will be explored by the Beirut Forces Operations Command and the Security Committee.
6. The deployment of the 61st Battalion in the area of operation will begin at 1600 today.
7. The removal of barriers and barricades shall begin as of Monday, 11 February.

Battalion's Deployment Postponed

NC101822 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Security sources stated a few minutes ago that the 61st Battalion's deployment in the area surrounding the Chamber of Deputies Building and elsewhere has been postponed until tomorrow morning. The delay is not the result of any security incident or problem in the area. Rather, its purpose is to provide more time to allow the deployment to take place in the best possible way, in accordance with the specified plan.

The Security Committee has been asked to meet at the headquarters of the Greater Beirut Operations Command at 0800 tomorrow. At that time, it will coordinate with the command's units and staff officers, and with Captain Nadir Farajallah, commander of the 61st Battalion, and will begin the deployment.

Al-Husayni, Junblatt Discuss Current Situation

NC101614 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] A meeting was held in Al-Mukhtarah this afternoon between Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni and Minister Walid Junblatt. Samir Franjiyah was also present. We have learned that Minister Junblatt also met with 'Uthman 'Uthman, director general of the Internal Security Forces, and with Michel Samahah, Jamil Ni'mah, Narwan Hamadah, and Ibrahim al-Shuwayrib.

After his meeting with Walid Junblatt in Al-Mukhtarah, Speaker Husayn al-Husayni said that they discussed all current issues, with special emphasis on Israel's withdrawal from the south. Minister Junblatt described the session's atmosphere as excellent.

He said his talks touched on all questions, and noted the particular relevance of this fact to the upcoming deadline for Israel's withdrawal from the south. Junblatt called for unity of ranks and for the Army's dispatch to the south to fulfill its function.

Karami on Security Situation, Israel

NC101454 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami received several dignitaries from the north at his home in Tripoli this afternoon. He also received a delegation from 'Akkar, and another group representing the Tripoli Popular Aid Organization. In addition, he met with the director of the government hospital in Tripoli.

The prime minister then received Shaykh Taha al-Sabunji, the mufti of Tripoli, and 'Ashir al-Dayah, director of Tripoli's Municipal Council. The current national situation was reviewed at the meeting.

After the session, the prime minister said: Undoubtedly, everyone knows that these recent days have been marked by an explosive security situation, an increased cost of living, and inflation. All this reflects something abnormal. The country is facing one crisis after another. When we talk about liberation and seek to achieve this great national goal, we hear warnings from the Israeli enemy that disturbances will follow his withdrawal. We rule all this out, and call upon our people to unite and to thwart any attempts to upset the situation.

Prime Minister Karami added: The sons of the south, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya, as well as the national resistance operations, which have forced the enemy to withdraw completely, lead me to say that the unity and loyalty of the Lebanese will guarantee the failure of anyone who considers harming the sons of this people.

As for the booby-trapped cars which explode from time to time, the prime minister said: Israel's agents are behind all these blasts and all the resulting loss of innocent blood. Their goal is to inflict additional casualties and cause additional material damage to this homeland.

Karami on Economic Disorder

NC102152 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] In a press statement in Tripoli today, Prime Minister Rashid Karami said that disruptions in the security situation, political differences, inflation, and Lebanon's high cost of living indicate that what is taking place is not normal, but appears to be planned. Prime Minister Karami asked: How can we fight the high cost of living? Can we fight it by separating the country's various regions, undermining industry, destroying agriculture, demanding protection money, or by seizing utilities and levying taxes on certain goods?

He added: Such actions would be futile, and would lead to additional complaints and increased suffering for everyone.

Karami said that those who seek illicit gains serve the enemy at the expense of innocent people. He asked: How can the authorities deal with all these issues when they are prevented from shouldering their responsibilities? How can security be established through a common agreement if we can't agree on a unified position? How can it be done if there are those who don't work to (?strengthen) the role played by the authorities, since they are the only alternative to this chaos? [passage indistinct]

Prime Minister Karami referred to the demand made by certain private radios that [word indistinct] water, and electricity be provided to the people, and that the increase in prices be checked. He said: If we are serious in placing all these responsibilities on the government, then I ask, why has there been this usurpation of the Treasury's rights? If customs revenues are estimated at 3 billion pounds, and only 300 million have been collected, then I ask, where have the other 2.7 billion pounds gone? They have gone into the pockets of the various militias. Are these militias responsible for hospitals, roads, and electricity? If they can actually satisfy all these demands, that's all for the good. However, how can the government shoulder all these burdens if those who put the money in their own pockets, and in those of their militias, to give it to the gunmen so that they may wreak havoc and destruction, turn around and demand that the government provide all the services needed by the people?

Prime Minister Karami asked whether the increase in the dollar's value is taking place in accordance with economic and financial principles, or whether it was the result of greed and illegal speculation. The prime minister said: In the absence of security, we can't control these people or absolutely forbid them from sucking our people's blood and tampering with their livelihood and future. Despite this, the Cabinet has adopted a number of measures and other arrangements now being implemented. We hope that through these measures and other arrangements, we will be able to check this indiscipline, theft, and tampering with our people's livelihood.

Birri Cited on Progress in South

NC101835 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri has expressed cautious optimism about the situation in the South. Referring to Iqlim al-Kharrub, Birri said conditions there are normal, and that the gunmen have withdrawn. He ruled out the possibility of fighting in that area.

Birri said his relationship with the Phalange Party is governed by the fact that he and the party are both members of the government. He added: We always work to keep this relationship on a confortable footing. He stressed that there was no alternative to deploying the Lebanese Army in those areas evacuated by Israel.

Birri added: If the Arabs provided moral, political, and material assistance, instead of help in the intelligence field, we would be quite well off.

Israelis Withdraw From Al-Zahrani, Sidon

NC100818 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] According to reports from the occupied south, Al-Zahrani as well as Sidon and its environs are now completely free of the

Israeli presence, following the departure of the last Israeli border force unit to Tyre. The Israeli move falls within the context of the declared Israeli withdrawal plan, which will be effected on 18 February.

In a similar development, agent Antoine Lahd has said that he will vacate his positions and remove all roadblocks in Sidon next Tuesday.

VOH: Lahd To Pull Out of Sidon 6 Days Before IDF

JN100723 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Staff Major General Antoine Lahd, commander of the army of southern Lebanon, has said that he will withdraw his forces from Sidon 6 days before the Israeli forces' withdrawal. Maj Gen Lahd affirmed that his army will remain stationed in existing positions in eastern Sidon, Jazzin suburbs, and near the Al-Awwali River. Maj Gen Lahd added that he had decided to withdraw his forces from Sidon to enable the Lebanese Army and legitimate forces to enter the city and prove that they can maintain security in the area.

Israeli Tanks Surround Dibyas, Burj Rahhal

NC101537 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Reports from the south state that 70 Israeli tanks surrounded the towns of Dibyas and Burj Rahhal in the District of Tyre this afternoon, in an attempt to establish stationary positions with a view to separating the two towns.

The occupation forces also raided Al-Saksakiyah today and made a great number of arrests.

Israeli Forces Arrest 25 Palestinian 'Infiltrators'

NC110742 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0715 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Text] The Israelis have arrested 25 Palestinians trying to infiltrate into Israeli-controlled areas in southern Lebanon. The Palestinians, aboard a pickup truck and a civilian car, were arrested near the Bisri bridge.

Our correspondent reports that the Israeli forces spotted the infiltrators and seized disassembled weapons, ammunition, mines, and some food supplies from their truck.

Czechoslovak Delegation Arrives in Beirut

NC101045 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] An official Czechoslovak delegation, led by Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Jakubec, arrived in Beirut this morning for economic talks and to sign an economic agreement amounting to 50 million Lebanese pounds.

Karami, TV Chairman Discuss Unification of Media

NC081557 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1515 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] The prime minister chaired a meeting attended by the chairman of the television authority, Michel Samahah, to discuss unifying the public media. Mr Samahah later said that he would be holding weekly meetings with the prime minister to discuss various issues, including information. He referred to Prime Minister Karami as the backbone of the regime in Lebanon today.

Mr Samahah, who has been involved in special missions on behalf of the president, said that talks would be continuing among all factions in an effort to mobilize all resources for the future. He stressed that meetings so far had been encouraging.

The new chairman of the television station said that he was aware of criticism against Channel Five for reporting celebrations marking February 6th, but stressed that the television must report whatever news is taking place in the country.

Al-Asad Votes, Speaks to Reporters 10 Feb

JN101618 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad has cast his vote at the voting center at Jawdat al-Hashimi secondary school. The crowds, who were holding dancing circles, received him with a roaring storm of cheers for his long life and asked God to protect him. The president exchanged greetings with the crowd and was greatly impressed by their ebullient feelings. Amid this warm welcome, the president shook hands with those who came forward to shake hands with him. At the head of those welcoming him at the secondary school entrance were Dr 'Ala' al-Din 'Abdin, secretary of the Ba'th Party branch of the governorate of Damascus; and 'Adnan Quli, the governor of Damascus.

After shaking hands with the members of the referendum committee at the center, the president exercised his right, and then made the following statement to the journalists at the center: It goes without saying that I share every issue with our people, and consequently that I share with them the great referendum they are exercising today. By exercising my right and duty as a citizen in this referendum, I feel the utmost pride and confidence in this great people and in their ability to face difficulties and challenges, whether those imposed by developments in life and by progress or those imposed by the imperialist designs in our Syrian Arab homeland and the Arab homeland in general. This is the more dangerous. I have no doubt that the Arabs' ability depends on Syria's ability.

Syria's fate is to defend itself and its nation, and to repeal this grave danger that threatens the nation. What I see today and what I have seen in the last few days in various Syrian regions heralds a glorious future, because it confirms our people's determination to offer sacrifices in defense of their principles and causes. It also confirms the unity of the masses, their cohesion, and their readiness to shoulder the responsibilities and consequences dictated by confronting our enemies, which covet our land and dignity.

When the president left the secondary school, the crowds became more enthusiastic. They carried him on their shoulders toward his car, chanting heartfelt cheers of greetings and asking God for victory, thus expressing the people's true love and sincere loyalty to the leader of the march. They continued to cheer, bidding farewell to the leader president even after the motorcade left the voting center.

Al-Asad Reelection Announced

JN111202 [Editorial Report] Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic, in a linkup with Damascus Television Service, at 0852 GMT on 11 February begins a live relay of the Syrian People's Assembly session held to announce the results of the referendum on the post of the president of the Republic. The announcer says the referendum results have been handed over to the People's Assembly. At 0926 GMT the People's Assembly secretary general reads the interior minister's statement on the results of the referendum as follows:

"1. The number of eligible voters whose names are registered in the election list amounted to 6,560,862.

"2. The number of voters who took part in the referendum was 6,522,262, that is, 99.41 percent of the total number of voters.

"3. The number of people who voted for President Hafiz al-Asad, who was nominated by the People's Assembly for the post of president of the Republic, amounted to 6,520,428, that is, 99.97 percent of the voters.

"4. The number of people who voted against the nomination amounted to 376, that is, 0.005 percent.

"5. The number of invalid ballots amounted to 1,458."

At 0930 GMT the People's Assembly speaker announces the following: "After listening to the results of the referendum, and in accordance with the provisions of Articles 84 and 85 of the Constitution and Article 183 of the People's Assembly bylaw, I announce that President Hafiz al-Asad is president of the Syrian Arab Republic for another 7 years beginning 13 March 1985."

The People's Assembly speaker and members then deliver speeches praising President al-Asad's leadership and achievements and congratulating him on his reelection.

The session ends at 1150 GMT and the live relay is concluded immediately afterward.

Soviet Leaders Congratulate Al-Asad on Reelection

JN111252 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT ~~11 Feb~~ 85

["Text" of cable to President Hafiz al-Asad from the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium — date not given]

[Text] We send you our heartfelt congratulations, Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, on your reelection to the high position of president of the Syrian Arab Republic.

Under your leadership, the Syrian Arab Republic follows a firm anti-imperialist policy and attains important achievements in economic and social development. The progressive principles of Syria's internal and foreign policy were reinforced by the decisions adopted at the recent Eighth Regional Congress of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

We express our confidence that the relations of friendship and comprehensive cooperation between the USSR and Syria will be strengthened on the basis of the Syrian-Soviet agreement for the interests of both countries' peoples, for a just and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East, and for both countries' contribution to the struggle for peace and security in the world.

Accept our wishes of good health and success in your big and responsible effort for the sake of friendly Syria's wellbeing and for the success of the struggle of Syrian and Arab people against Israeli aggression and imperialist conspiracies.

Al-Asad Receives USSR Friendship Society Head

JN091244 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus — At 1415 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Boris Nikolayevich Pastukhov, CPSU Central Committee member, chairman of the State Committee for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants, and the Book Trade, and chairman of the Soviet- Syrian Friendship Society, and his delegation. The meeting was attended by Felix Fedetov, Soviet ambassador in Damascus.

Pastukhov conveyed to the president the greetings of the Soviet leadership and people and their hopes that his excellency and Syria will achieve more successes in their defense of Arab rights and in their confrontation with imperialist and Zionist schemes that are hostile to Syria and the Arabs. The president received these greetings and hopes with appreciation and asked Pastukhov to convey his cordial greetings to the Soviet leadership and people. During the meeting, the talks revolved around the situation in the region and Syrian-Soviet cooperation in various spheres.

Assembly Speaker Receives Delegation

JN102020 Damascus SANA in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus, 10 Feb (SANA) — Boris Nikolayevich Pastukhov, CPSU Central Committee member, chairman of the State Committee for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants, and the Book Trade, and chairman of the Soviet-Syrian Friendship Society, has expressed appreciation for the Syrian people's friendly feelings toward the Soviet people. During his meetings with People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi here today, Pastukhov said: During our tour in Syria, we sensed the Syrian people's feelings of friendship and cooperation toward the Soviet people.

Al-Zu'bi also highly appreciated the Soviet Union's positions which support just causes, pointing out that any victory in either country is a victory for the other. During the meeting, they reviewed current issues and parliamentary matters that are based on the Friendship and Cooperation Treaty between the two countries.

Al-Asad Receives Saudi Official, Message

JN091746 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Tuwayjiri, deputy commander of the National Guard in Saudi Arabia, at 1845 today. Shaykh al-Tuwayjiri conveyed a message to President Hafiz al-Asad from King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

Al-Asad Cables Khamene'i on Iranian Anniversary

JN101928 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1810 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus, 10 Feb (SANA) — President Hafiz al-Asad sent a cable of congratulations to Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i today on the anniversary of the Islamic revolution in Iran.

The following is the text of the cable: On the anniversary of the Islamic revolution in Iran, I am pleased to send to you and to the friendly Iranian Muslim people, on behalf of the Syrian people and in my own name, our warm congratulations and greetings, wishing good health and happiness for you and continued success for the Iranian people.

President al-Asad also expressed his confidence that friendship and cooperative relations between the two peoples and countries will continue and develop, and that joint struggle against Zionism and imperialism will also become stronger in order to serve Muslim causes and promote Islam.

Al-Shar' Receives Message From Australia's Hayden

JN090940 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0857 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus, 9 Feb (SANA) — At 1015 today, Foreign Minister Farug al-Shar' received Australian Ambassador in Damascus Ross Burns. The ambassador conveyed a message from Australian Foreign Minister William Hayden on the situation in southern Lebanon and UNIFIL's role in the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

'Air Defense' Confronts 2 Israeli Planes

JN101428 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: A pair of enemy planes raided a Lebanese house east of Shtawrah at noon today, Sunday, 10 February, 1985. Our air defense means confronted them and forced them to return to the occupied land. The incident resulted in the martyrdom of two children.

Israeli Planes Repulsed Again

JN111214 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1206 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: At 1246 [0946 GMT] today, Monday, 11 February, 1985, two pairs of enemy planes strafed for the 2d consecutive day civilian houses east of Shtawrah with time bombs. The strafing resulted in the martyrdom of a number of civilians, including some school children. Our air defense means in the area intercepted them and forced them to return in the direction of the occupied territory.

Occupied Lands May Become 'New Southern Lebanon'

JN081548 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] Zionist officials and media are currently engaged in discussing two issues that seem to cause real concern in Zionist circles. While there is repeated talk about Syria's slogan of creating a strategic balance, the Zionist leadership is now convinced that the lesson of southern Lebanon will be applied in the occupied Arab territories of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and

the Galilee [as heard]. Although Israel is trying to belittle the importance of Syria's endeavors to realize a balance of forces, there are indications that the Zionist leaders are perfectly convinced that Syria would not challenge them without creating a firm foundation on which to base its slogans and support its confrontations; and that Syria has given all Arabs their only alternative — namely, working hard in order to uphold the fact that there can be no right without power, no justice without removing aggression, and no peace without defeating the aggressors.

Israel admits what its media are disseminating — namely, that the Arabs can put up with a hundred defeats, but Israel cannot put up with a single defeat. This makes us in this steadfast and confronting country work to create the circumstances that would spare the Arabs the pains and evils of any defeat. The Arabs have had enough injustice as a result of the disturbance in the balance of forces. Israel exploited this balance in its favor in order to entrench its occupation of Arab territories and to flout the international principles of peace and justice. Israel is aware that its invasion of Lebanon was transformed from victory intodefeat and that Syria had a role in reversing the equation whose results the U.S. and Zionist strategists could not foresee.

The balance that Syria has endeavored to realize took the masses' role in battle into consideration. It also considered the Zionist authorities' oppression of 2 million Arab inhabitants in the occupied homeland, something which makes the lesson of southern Lebanon a reality over every inch of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and the Galilee. The battle with Zionism is a battle of existence, because the Zionists are endeavoring to annihilate the Arab people and expunge their culture. This is corroborated by the large-scale terrorist campaign that the Zionist religious leaders such as Kahane and Levinger are leading — a campaign which enjoys the support of Sharon, Shamir, and the vast majority of the Zionist leadership.

Such indications prompt Syria's insistence on creating a new Arab reality and on defining Arab desires and not U.S. desires, as some capitulationist Arabs are demanding. These Arabs think that victory is impossible, and deceive the masses by claiming that the United States has all the cards for a solution. The Lebanese people, who are committed to their Arabism and pan-Arab identity, have wrested all the cards from the U.S. hands and have transformed southern Lebanon into a graveyard for the invaders. Israel is well aware of this. What would be the aggressors' condition if the entire occupied homeland were transformed into a new southern Lebanon? Would a single one of those cards held by the capitulators and defeatists remain in U.S. hands?

We in Syria are not giving Israel the war alternative, because we are not warmongers. We abhor death and destruction. However, we are defending our existence and giving Israel the inevitable problem — namely, recognizing that the power it is boasting is not stronger than the Arabs' will to defend their land and existence at a time when peace is no longer monopolized by anybody and when military power is no longer possessed solely by one side. Our demand is just and legitimate. It is supported by international will. There will be no peace unless our usurped land is liberated, and no justice until our Palestinian people's legitimate rights to establish their independent national state on their own national soil are recognized.

Syria will not tolerate the previous Arab situation in which the Arabs received blows and had their land usurped. Syria will work to change this situation. If Israel derives its power from a superpower — namely, the United States of America — it should realize that the classification [al-farz] in the international relations which Syria has created has brought it closer to its aims of preserving Arab dignity and restoring the usurped Arab rights. [sentence as heard]

Resistance To Continue Against 'Occupation Forces'

JN081809 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Palestine Broadcast: "Talk of the Return"]

[Text] The ruling Zionist circles in occupied Palestine are greatly perturbed by the mounting fedayeen operations in the West Bank, Gaza, and southern Lebanon. Last week, these occupied areas witnessed several daring fedayeen operations in which scores of Zionist soldiers were killed or wounded.

While the masses of our people in the West Bank were confronting the Zionist terrorist campaigns, which Rabbi Levinger led with the backing of the occupation authorities and which reached their peak when a Zionist soldier was killed in the town of Ramallah, Zionist enemy forces were facing death and destruction at the hands of the Lebanese national resistance. Some 100 Zionist soldiers were killed or wounded following a daring operation that a national resistance group carried out near Tyre in southern Lebanon. Enemy forces immediately surrounded seven Lebanese villages and used helicopters in their terrorist campaign against the people of the south. These helicopters opened fire and dropped incendiary bombs on Arab citizens — especially in the village of Ma'arakh, Jabal 'Amil, and Al-Burj al-Shamali — killing or wounding 30 school children. Enemy armored cars also stormed the villages around Tyre. Zionist soldiers used all methods of terrorism and torture and detained scores of southern Lebanese in their search for the resistance men.

This savage massacre is one of a continuous series of crimes the occupation forces commit against the Arab citizens, whether in southern Lebanon or the occupied West Bank and Gaza. Several months ago, these forces carried out a massacre in the southern village of Suhmur. These forces also stormed seven Lebanese villages during that operation.

In the occupied West Bank, Zionist settlers continue to commit acts of terrorism and crime against our Palestinian Arab people. Terrorist Levinger has carried out a criminal campaign against the residents of Al-Duhayshah camp near Bethlehem.

Racist Rabbi Me'ir Kahane has also carried out a similar hysterical campaign against several Arab villages in Galilee, the triangle, and the West Bank. The Zionist occupation forces themselves have encouraged and protected the Zionist diehard groups. More than that, these forces used violence against our

kinfolk. They opened fire on Arab citizens in Ramallah, Al-Duhayshah camp, and other Arab towns and camps in the West Bank and Gaza. Zionist war minister Yitzhaq Rabin rushed to the occupied West Bank to personally supervise the Zionist terrorist campaign after a Zionist soldier was killed in the occupied town of Ramallah.

In the meantime, Zionist Chief of Staff Moshe Levi rushed to southern Lebanon to supervise the terrorist combing operations that the Zionist forces carried out the day before yesterday in seven Lebanese villages near Tyre following the Lebanese national resistance men's heroic operation that resulted in the killing or wounding of about 100 Zionist soldiers.

The Zionist rulers lost their senses, and went about personally supervising the campaigns of terrorism, crime, murder, and destruction that are being carried out by their forces in southern Lebanon and the West Bank. They think that such methods will terrorize our people and make them desist from armed resistance. There is nothing strange in that. The Zionist enemy will continue to be the victim of its delusions. It is not strange for those who committed the massacres of Dayr Yasin, Kafr Qasim, Qibyah, Sabra, and Shatila to also shell the Jabal 'Amil foundation, the village of Ma'rakah, and Al-Burj al-Shamali camp in southern Lebanon, to carry out terrorist campaigns and to commit savage crimes against our kinfolk in Al-Duhayshah camp, Ramallah, Al-Birah, and other West Bank towns and camps. The enemy's legality and existence are essentially based on murder, destruction, and the usurpation of human rights.

There is no doubt that the continuous massacres committed by the enemy, whether in southern Lebanon or the West Bank and Gaza, are an expression of the Zionist enemy's dilemma after it has been forced to pull out of the south, after it failed to foment sedition and massacres between the Lebanese factions, and after it failed to subject our Palestinian Arab people in the occupied homeland to its willpower and liquidation plan. These Zionist terrorist acts will only make our Lebanese and Palestinian people more determined to continue with their steadfastness and confrontation. The general resistance will continue against the occupation forces, both in the south and in the West Bank and Gaza, until the occupied Arab territories are liberated from the Zionist invaders.

Air Force Attacks 'Terrorist' Bases in Lebanon

TA102112 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1108 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] The IDF spokesman has just announced that at noon, Air Force planes attacked a terrorist base near the village of Ta'l-baya, about 2.5 km east of the town of Shtawrah on the Beirut-Damascus highway. All our planes returned safely to their bases and the pilots reported accurate hits on the targets. The base attacked was a one-story building which housed a headquarters of the Democratic Front, and served as a launching area for attacks against the IDF forces.

No Ground Fire Noted

TA101621 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Reports from Beirut say that in the Israeli air raid in the Lebanese Al-Biqa', one person was killed and three wounded. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal comments that no shots were fired from the ground at our airplanes.

Lebanon's Prime Minister Rashid Karami this afternoon accused Israel of being responsible for the explosion of a booby-trapped car in Tripoli in northern Lebanon. Our monitor Mikha'el Gurdus says that according to the latest reports, 7 people were killed and 15 wounded in the latter explosion.

'Terrorist' Base Attacked Again

TA111003 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Text] Today at about noon, Air Force planes attacked a terrorist base near the village of Ta'albaya, about 2.5 km east of the village of Shtawrah on the Beirut-Damascus highway. All our planes returned safely to their base. The pilots reported accurate hits on the targets.

Further on Second Attack

TA111028 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1023 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Text] Here is a small addition to the report already broadcast on the Air Force attack. There were several huts and tents on that base as well as a headquarters belonging to Abu Musa's [Sa'id Musa Muragha's] personnel, who are rebels against Fatah.

Peres on Air Strike, Negotiations With Jordan

TA110640 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres says yesterday's air strike on the Democratic Front terrorist base in Lebanon was a preventive action. He was speaking last night in Jerusalem to a delegation from the Dutch Keren Hayesod [United Jewish Appeal]. David Essing reports:

Prime Minister Peres said the air strike was aimed at terrorists preparing to attack.

[Begin Peres recording] Whenever we have concrete information about a group of terrorists preparing to cross the border or to cause some damage, we do take preventive acts, as it was taken today. [end recording]

The prime minister denied a statement by Egyptian Premier Kamal Hasan 'Ali that he was ready to give up 60 percent of Judaea and Samaria.

[Begin Peres recording] And I never used percentages. I never mentioned any percentage when it came to the future solution of the outstanding issues between us and the Arabs, but I am representing a party which is clearly for a territorial compromise in order to keep the Jewish character of the State of Israel and in order to achieve peace. [end recording]

When asked about rumors of secret Israeli talks with Jordan, Peres replied: I wish there would be negotiations.

And he added: There is nothing that we can write home about.

Peres said the Jordanians are hopeful the PLO will accept UN Resolution 242 and end terrorism, but the prospects are extremely dim.

MA'ARIV Interviews Defense Minister Rabin

TA081414 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 8 Feb 85 p 24

[Interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by Ya'aqov Ha'elyon at his office "this week"]

[Text] Ha'elyon: For the first time, an IDF soldier was killed this week while on guard duty in Judaea and Samaria. Does this prove that the IDF has lost some of its deterrent power?
Rabin: I do not think this is the first time a soldier has been killed while on guard duty, but it may be the first time in the last few years. As to whether this means we have lost our deterrent power, I do not think so. Notwithstanding the pain over the two vicious murders in the last weeks, we should not lose our sense of proportion.

Ha'elyon: Are you talking about the statistical data that has been published?
Rabin: No, first of all I am talking about substance. Some 1.2 million Palestinian Arabs live under Israeli rule. They are probably not happy about the fact that they have been under Israeli rule for almost 18 years. Taken as a whole and despite all the difficulties and adversities we have been experiencing, the situation is not only reasonable, but also represents an impressive achievement of the various security branches. What I mean is, there is actually complete freedom of action and movement in those areas, although their political future has not been determined and has even been blurred in the Camp David accords.

Ha'elyon: So?
Rabin: We should not rest on our laurels, but rather we should set out to maintain and improve the situation. This means that

we should be alert to any inkling of a change in a dangerous direction. Therefore, I am not making light of the accumulating circumstances which could be statistically portrayed as mere coincidence. I think it best to take measures called for by these circumstances.

Ha'elyon: Are these circumstances also reflected, for example, in the use of more lethal means of warfare?
Rabin: I do not want to make light of any sign of deterioration,including the Molotov cocktails. However, there were times when the terrorists in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip possessed larger quantities of arms than today. We experienced very serious terrorist attacks, not only in Judaea and Samaria, but also in Jerusalem, their key target. The fact that they cannot do the same today represents an achievement of the security branches. Yet again, I am not ignoring possible signs of a deterioration. That is why we must "think hard" and make decisions.

Ha'elyon: Could you describe those signs?
Rabin: It seems that we will witness more riots, demonstrations, blazing tires, stone throwings, and terrorist attacks using Molotov cocktails and other weapons, including explosives.

Ha'elyon: What will be our response to such situations?
Rabin: In the face of riots we should — and we already have done so — beef up the presence of IDF troops and other security personnel in the territories; there should be more patrols, and greater alertness should be exercised in the cities and on the roads. Secondly, as a rule but mainly in response to attacks, we will make sure to mete out the punishment permitted by law. I am not ruling out any kind of punishment, including deportations, administrative detentions, and the demolition and boarding-up of houses. These measures will not be taboo and we will use them if necessary.

Ha'elyon: What will be your reaction if the settlers make good on their threat to take the law into their own hands?
Rabin: (emphatically) We are a state of law. Only one body is in charge of maintaining the law, including the handling of disturbances and terrorist attacks, and that is the government, by means of the security branches. We will not let anyone take the law into his own hands! The settlers have defense duties within the boundaries of their settlements but not beyond them.

Ha'elyon: What about the roads?
Rabin: They are allowed to carry weapons while traveling on the roads. According to standing regulations, if they are attacked, they may defend themselves and those traveling with them.

Ha'elyon: Some time ago you said a liberalization in the economic and social spheres in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza was being contemplated. Does this still apply in the wake of recent events?
Rabin: The policy regarding Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip is one of war against terrorism to the bitter end first, and maintaining law and order among the inhabitants second. We will help those Palestinians who wish to live in peace to raise their standards and quality of living, economy, and schools. I see no contradiction between fighting terrorism and helping those people who want to live and progress.

Ha'elyon: Your remarks this week imply that the PLO has created a new den of snakes in Jordan.
Rabin: Jordan does not allow the PLO to send terrorist squads or to fire katyusha rockets from its territory, but the plans and operational instructions are drawn up in Amman. It is easier to conduct personal contacts with the inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip from Jordan than from Tunsia or even Lebanon. Crossing the Jordan bridges and getting to Amman is a piece of cake. Moreover, from the political point of view, the inhabitants of the territories currently see Husayn and 'Arafat as a joint front. They do not have to choose whom to follow, because it would seem — and I emphasize, it would seem — that both men advocate the same positions. At present, support for 'Arafat is not regarded as being "against Husayn" and vice versa. This has solved a political-emotional dilemma for the inhabitants of the territories.

Ha'elyon: And has presented us with a dilemma....
Rabin: It has presented us with a dilemma.

Ha'elyon: Are we helpless in the face of this?
Rabin: We must realize the implications for daily life in the territories, but we are not the political body that will determine whether the two men will or will not get along. I believe that ultimately they will not get along; they will not be able to cooperate politically. I hope the Jordanian king has not forgotten the lesson from the 1967-1970 period when his rule and throne were jeopardized after he allowed 'Arafat and his men to dominate Jordan.

Ha'elyon: The messages the government sent to Jordan led to a glimmer of hope regarding the chances for a dialogue. Do 'Arafat's activities in Jordan not drive away these hopes?
Rabin: Time and again I have said that Israel's order of priorities should be — first, economic and social recovery; second, maintaining our military deterrent power and finding a solution to our military involvement in Lebanon as part of it; third, warming up the peace with Egypt; and fourth, expanding the peace process. I doubt that there is any realistic chance for a significant political move with Jordan before the Lebanese affair is over and there has been a thaw in relations with Egypt. Moreover, without pan-Arab support, I do not believe Jordan will join the peace process.

Ha'elyon: When you visited the settlement of Rotem in the Jordan Rift Valley recently, you said that settlement is the expression of the return of the Israeli people to Eretz Yisra'el.
Rabin: I did not say settlement [hitnahalut] but colonization [hityashvut] and I was not specifically referring to Rotem, but to Eretz Yisra'el. Colonization is the main symbolic expression of the return to Zion. I was talking about colonization in general and Rotem is one of its expressions and I made these remarks in the Jordan Rift Valley, not elsewhere.
Ha'elyon: The chief of staff stated this week that Syria is preparing its Army for a war against us. Is this a real threat?
Rabin: When I look at the situation from the point of view of the military threat against Israel, I see Egypt outside the immediate circle of war, and Iraq engaged in war with Iran. As long

as this war continues, the eastern front will remain relatively calm. With Egypt and Iraq outside the immediate circle, I do not see Jordan joining Syria as a single partner. Therefore, Syria is the main military enemy today because it is not engaged in another front and does not have a peace treaty with us. In the wake of the war in Lebanon, Syria has largely accelerated the beefing up of its Army, both quantitatively and, what is more dangerous, qualitatively. And, Syria still talks about striving for a strategic balance with Israel! We must seriously take into consideration those who make such statements out loud as a body which might use force against us at some stage. I would not recommend that anyone should assume that Syria is beefing up its Army only to threaten, but not to use it against Israel.

Ha'elyon: Really, how close is Syria to a strategic balance?
Rabin: It is still far from it; but let me add that today there are no easy or painless wars. The vast quantities of weapons and their destructiveness will make any war — and I believe that we would win such a war — expensive and painful. Therefore, as long as there is no need for war, we should look for every possible way to prevent it.

Ha'elyon: There is a humiliating feeling that the IDF is helpless in the face of the way it is being forced to withdraw.
Rabin: In my opinion, Shi'ite terrorism against us would have strengthened even regardless of the withdrawal. We are comparing the present situation with the state of affairs 2 or 3 months ago, but we are not considering what would have happened in the next few months if we had stayed. The executors of Shi'ite terrorism are better able to perform as terrorists than the PLO. There has never been an incident — as was the case this week — when a PLO terrorist took a car, loaded it with explosives, and drove it as a mobile bomb. This was the third attack of its kind against Israelis.

Ha'elyon: Was the surprising emergence of Shi'ite activities against us not the result of faulty intelligence?
Rabin: I have checked whether anyone in the intelligence community ever predicted that the Shi'ites would emerge as a front against us, and I have found no proof of it. Nonetheless, the situation has changed in West Beirut. The Shi'ites are controlling this part of the city and want to prevent the PLO from taking it over. They are letting the PLO return — there are some 2,000 Palestinian terrorists in Beirut — however, they are taking very great pains to prevent the PLO from regaining Muslim hegemony in West Beirut. Perhaps the same will also take place in southern Lebanon.

Ha'elyon: Does Syria not stand behind these attacks?
Rabin: No, it is not the Syrians who fostered the Shi'ites hatred of Israel. The Shi'ites are no puppets of the Syrians. There is no doubt, however, that the Syrians have exploited this situation. As I stated in the United States, the Syrians are prepared to fight Israel to the last Shi'ite terrorist... They never risked a thing and they rejoiced over the attacks against the IDF soldiers. I prefer to have the IDF deployed along the international border, with a wide security strip of local Lebanese forces backed by the IDF, and strike at them from land, sea, or air if necessary, than to be stretched over the whole of southern Lebanon and be a target for every Shi'ite group or village preparing terrorist attacks. The Shi'ites may receive weapons from Syria but, generally, most of their arms come from Beirut.

Ha'elyon: You told leaders of the settlements in the Galilee that the previous situation would not recur. One gets the feeling that the inhabitants of the Galilee are not at all convinced....
Rabin: Let me explain, I said that we would provide reasonable security. What I meant is that we must prevent a recurrence of the situation that existed in southern Lebanon before June 1982 when the PLO dominated the area and could deploy troops, dozens of artillery guns, and katyusha rockets within firing range of Israel on a permanent basis. The moment we see an attempt in such a direction, we will step in — but not to remain there on a permanent basis — or we will strike from the air. At the same time, I also told them that I could not promise that no more katyushas would fall again, just as I cannot promise that bombs will never explode in Tel Aviv or Jerusalem. Our duty is to reduce our vulnerability to the minimum and to strike at the terrorists as much as we can, either before or after attacks.

Ha'elyon: Let us go over to the issue of your visit to the United States. Several U.S. papers described you as "happy"....
Rabin: The word "happy" is exaggerated; I was pleased. I had meetings with the President, the vice president, the defense secretary, the secretary of state, the national security adviser, congressmen, and senators. In general, I would say that also after the presidential elections, I found an administration willing to help Israel. This does not mean that the administration sees eye to eye with us on everything. It wants a strong Israel and it is prepared to translate its sympathy and interests into very tangible things.

Ha'elyon: Could you elaborate?
Rabin: First of all, there is the increase of military aid to Israel to $1.8 billion. Commentators told me that except for their own defense budget, this is the only item in the U.S. budget which was increased. This is a record sum in annual military aid ever given to Israel!

Ha'elyon: However, that was not the case regarding economic aid.
Rabin: I believe that there is also willingness in the United States to increase economic aid. However, the Americans also want to see Israel doing some things. They are confident that we are presenting them with a clear and thorough picture of what we are doing in the security sphere, and they also want to see a clear picture in the economic field. It seems to me that in the wake of the first and second package deals, we have something to show to the Americans, on condition that our case is not presented by those who want to use the United States as a means to pressure for... making decisions in Israel. We can explain to the Americans that their way of thinking is not always compatible with ours; we can tell them that the process takes longer in Israel because of the need to get wide national consensus, and that unemployment is also a bad phenomenon in the United States, but that not even one unemployed American has emigrated because of it. I found understanding there regarding all these matters; we should present the things we have done in a positive manner.

Ha'elyon: What about other issues?

Rabin: Other issues were also raised. I asked that if the superpowers enter a dialogue over issues of mutual concern, the plight of Soviet Jewry should be given prominence. Another point I raised was the regional dialogue between the United States and the Soviet Union. I expressed deep concern that this dialogue could represent a diversion from the line adopted by the United States since the Yom Kippur War, namely, that the United States will direct the process while gently neutralizing the Soviet Union. I emphasized the danger entailed in such a dialogue, in view of the growing demand in the Arab world to hand over the search for a solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict to an international peace conference with the participation of the two superpowers and sponsored by the United Nations. I received a clear-cut answer from the most senior levels — they are drawing a very clear distinction between the need to conduct a dialogue on regional issues with the Soviet Union on a relatively low level, and their clear position that they would not take part in any international peace conference on the Middle East. The third topic was the sale of weapons to Arab countries, which was raised by the Americans or, to be more precise, by the President himself. I made it unambiguously clear that Israel will oppose arms sales to Arab countries that do not live in peace with us, that is to say, with the exception of Egypt. I am glad that one day later the President decided to suspend arms deals to the Middle East!

Ha'elyon: Regrettably, this decision also applies to Israel....
Rabin: (smiling) Do we have such deals? This decision does not affect any weapons scheduled to arrive or arriving in Israel!

Ha'elyon: Did we ask the United States to build submarines for us?
Rabin: This issue was raised before I entered the post of defense minister. During Weinberger's visit in Israel, I raised the subject once again. It was decided to establish a joint committee to examine the issue of the submarines, but this committee has not yet completed its job.

Ha'elyon: What sort of Weinberger did you find — a friend or "a bad man" as your predecessor described him?
Rabin: In our personal and business contacts, I encountered a man who understands our problems, who wants to help, and who is actually helping us. I will not talk about the past. In view of his words, but particularly in view of his deeds, today I would describe him as friendly toward Israel.

Swedish Minister, Rabin Discuss Withdrawal Plans

TA1008 55 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0745 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Sweden's Defense Minister Anders Thunborg conferred with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin at the Defense Ministry in Tel Aviv this morning. The Swedish Minister, who was received with a full-dress ceremony, mainly asked for details of the IDF withdrawal from Lebanon.

Yitzhaq Rabin told his guest that Israel would like to transfer the area it evacuates to the Lebanese Army through the United Nations. Even if this does not materialize, the IDF will evacuate the area according to schedule.

The Swedish defense minister will meet today with the chief of the IDF Intelligence Branch and with the coordinator of Israeli activities in Lebanon.

Withdrawal Cooperation Still Possible

TA1014 08 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] The defense minister has made it clear that even now, at the very last minute, Israel is ready to cooperate with the Lebanese Government and the United Nations to bring about an orderly evacuation of the area held by the IDF in Lebanon. He said there was no doubt in his mind that the presence of UNIFIL will entail some difficulties once the IDF withdrawal process is over. Yitzhaq Rabin conferred in his office with the Swedish defense minister.

Rabin Warns of Shi'ite Terrorism, Favors Withdrawal

TA1108 01 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Text] Yitzhaq Rabin has again warned of a Gordian knot in Lebanon. The IDF's strength lies in initiative, attack initiative, the defense minister said, and not in being spread all over southern Lebanon, a static target for any PLO or Shi'ite organization. The defense minister was speaking last night to members of the Labor Party in Haifa. Our correspondent Haviva Roger brings us some of his remarks.

[Begin recording] [Rabin] Prior to the Peace for Galilee campaign, no one predicted its expansion into the Lebanon war or the emergence of a Shi'ite problem. I have seen all the intelligence reports. No one saw this. No one predicted it.

[Roger] Anyone who thinks that the war against us would not escalate if we were to remain in Lebanon and hold onto it by force is mistaken, Yitzhaq Rabin said. If the Lebanon war ends with a temporary blow struck at PLO terrorism, but Shi'ite terrorism comes to replace it, it would be a most grave development in the problem of terrorism. Israel must face, for instance, he said, the phenomenon of suicide attacks against IDF buildings or vehicles with booby-trapped cars.

[Rabin — picked up in mid-sentence] against IDF objectives in southern Lebanon. There have already been more than five such incidents. I am not sure that this is the end. If we were not taking all steps against volunteers and booby-trapped cars, many, many more of those existing in Lebanon would have emerged.

[Roger] And, on the day on which three soldiers were killed, and three wounded in Lebanon, Yitzhaq Rabin said about the withdrawal:

[Rabin] A difficult move, filled with traps, also involving sacrifices yet to come, until the stage in which we will return. [not further specified] I believe that, with all the difficulties, there is no good solution to our distress in Lebanon. The Gordian knot is a serious one. But we must also provide an answer to difficult

problems and, in these circumstances, I believe the solution presented to the Cabinet is the less terrible. [end recording]

Sharon Interviewed on Policy in Territories

TA081301 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Interview with Minister Ari'el Sharon by Haviva Roger "a short time ago"; place not given — recorded]

[Excerpt] [Roger] Following Minister Sharon's visit to Al-Duhayshah this week, we asked for his views on the worsening attacks against civilians and IDF soldiers in Judaea and Samaria.

[Sharon] What Israel needs to do, first and foremost, is to make certain that it has a clear political line. It must explain to everyone that Israel will continue to hold on to Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District, which are forever an inseparable part of Eretz Yisra'el. This explanation should be accompanied by broad settlement activities which will make it clear to everyone that Israel's intentions have not changed. I am confident that the security forces — the security forces, the police, and the IDF — know how to deal with these problems. The problem is not the correct behavior of the security forces. Our current problem is the political lack of clarity, and the various statements made in this field have only added to it. What should be done is to say clear, unambiguous things, that make it clear that we will remain in these areas forever and calm will return.

Weizman Advocates Self-Rule for Territories

TA081813 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] Minister 'Ezer Weizman advocates changing the way the territories are governed, by allowing the inhabitants to administer their own affairs. Minister Weizman says there is no need to shrink from a unilateral implementation of autonomy in the territories. He also said he hopes it will not be necessary to again implement the penalty of expulsion from the territories.

Our correspondent Yafa Glick reports that Minister Weizman was speaking at a meeting of students at Bet Berl who support the Labor Party. He recommended that the students avoid mistakes that could result in their children, or grandchildren, being forced to serve along the Turkish border.

Peres Comments on Autonomy for Territories

TA100955 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 10 Feb 85

[Report by Yoni Meiman and 'Aliza (Wallach)]

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres does not think the current political conditions are ripe for a unilateral imposition of autonomy on Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District. Sources from the Prime Minister's Office have told *DAVAR* that Minister 'Ezer Weizman's proposal on this matter is not relevant, because the Likud is opposed to the idea and so there is not much chance of it being implemented.

The sources added that it would also be difficult for Israel to find Palestinian leaders in the territories who would agree to help in the imposition of this autonomy.

The sources disclosed that, at several closed forums, 'Ezer Weizman had already raised the ideas of unilateral autonomy, including the possibility of making it applicable to the Gaza Strip first, but these ideas had not been brought to any real discussion in the authorized forums.

Minister 'Ezer Weizman, when speaking on 8 February to Labor Party members meeting for a seminar held by the International Center for Peace in the Middle East in the Bet Berl student union, said he favors a unilateral imposition of autonomy.

"The government of Israel should take the path of coming closer to autonomy," Weizman proposed, "and I think the inhabitants are ready for this. I would prefer to arrive at an arrangement with representatives of the Palestinian people before I come to an arrangement with Husayn. I think the Palestinian leadership is making a mistake by not being prepared to support autonomy."

Peres Meets Settlement Leaders

TA101843 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] The meeting between the prime minister and the heads of the Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza District settlements ended on an optimistic note. The meeting was devoted to security in Judaea and Samaria, and Prime Minister Shim'on Peres told the settlers that there will be no compromise on this matter, that everything will be done to guarantee security. Our correspondent Shalom Oren reports.

[Begin recording] [Oren] The heads of the settlements presented the prime minister with a general view of the problem, and according to 'Otni'el Schneller, the secretary of the Settlements Council, the meeting was evidently good.

[Schneller] We left feeling cautiously optimistic. If what the prime minister tried to explain to us — an extremely unambiguous and clear-cut policy regarding security — is implemented, then we will be calm. If the incidents continue, we will not be calm, and his remarks will remain within the realm of declarations only.

[Oren] Did he mention a timetable?

[Schneller] There is no such thing when you deal with war against terrorism. There is a declaration of intentions, and proof in the area. In the latter sphere, in the area, we will very quickly feel whether the security forces have the means and measures that may have lacked to date to put things right regarding terrorism.

[Oren] The prime minister told the settlers: Regarding security, there will be no compromise. It is our duty. However, we must be careful not to turn terrorism into a political issue.

The settlements, the prime minister said, were not established to combat terrorism. It is necessary to draw a distinction between

the political issue — which has to do with the very establishment of the settlements — and the security matter, the prime minister said, adding that he had no intention of just pleasing anyone's ears in this argument. In previous governments, terror reigned as well, Shim'on Peres emphasized. For the sake of comparison, the prime minmister said that our entering Lebanon did not improve our situation. The atmosphere in the meeting, both parties admit, was good, and the settlers repeated their invitation to the prime minister to come and visit Judaea and Samaria.

Moshe Levinger, who also participated in the meeting, said that he will now consider the possibility of ending his demonstration opposite Al-Duhayshah.

[Levinger] We thought about it, and we will see. If we indeed see that there is an improvement, or that the trend is toward an improvement, then we will cease our actions, including the demonstration I have been staging in Al-Duhayshah.

[Oren] To sum up, the settlers said they are optimistic and will wait to see whether the government's policy is really bearing fruit. In any case, the planned protest measures have been postponed. [end recording]

'Several' West Bank Disruptions Reported

TA101340 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1247 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] There were several incidents today in Judaea and Samaria. A stone was thrown at a bus belonging to the Company for the Development of Samaria on the main Nabulus highway. The windshield of the bus was shattered, but none of the passengers were hurt.

Later, a civilian escort of a Dan bus in Nabulus fired one shot into the air after having thought that a group of students intended to throw stones at the bus. A soldier riding in the bus submitted a complaint against the escort and told the police that this was not the first time that that escort has fired into the air without any provocation.

A pharmacy and a cafe in the Balatah refugee camp are to be closed for 3 days by order of the Civilian Administration. Security sources told our correspondent Gil Ronen that it was suspected that the owners of these businesses were witnesses to the throwing of a stone at an IDF truck yesterday, in which the truck's windshield was shattered.

Today a senior officer in Judaea and Samaria told our correspondent that the latest incidents could indicate a rise in Arab nationalism. He also commented that a rise in the disruptions to the peace had been noted in Nabulus after the opening of the Al-Najah University.

Shamir on 'Stronger, Firmer' U.S.-Mideast Stance

TA102305 Tel Aviv IDF in Hebrew 2035 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Netanya, 10 Feb (IDF) — "The Israeli Government has no shortage of plans and ideas to heal the economy. The government only lacks the courage to carry out the drastic, unpopular moves. It is incumbent upon us to exploit the political power of the two large parties to implement the necessary measures," Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said this evening in a speech before Herut Movement activists in Netanya.

Talking about the political situation, the foreign minister referred to the pilgrimage to Washington by Arab leaders. In his opinion, this proves that there is nothing to the argument voiced by U.S. politicians that excessive closeness between Israel and the United States is unhealthy and damaging to the political process. "The status of the United States in the Middle East is stronger and firmer than it has ever been, and our relations with the United States do not harm the strong desire evidenced by the leaders of the Arab countries to maintain contact with the United States."

In Shamir's opinion, the United States is under an obligation to clarify to the Arab countries that the Middle East negotiations must be held directly between Israel and the Arab countries, without U.S. intervention. "The oil weapon has weakened completely, the PLO's power is in decline, and the Arab countries do not have the tools to threaten or deter the United States. Now is the time to tell the Arab leaders to talk to Israel directly."

The foreign minister attacked the growing closeness between Jordan, Egypt, and the PLO. "If Husayn is interested in peace, he must sever his ties with the PLO. The growing intimacy between Egypt and the PLO constitutes an antithesis to peace, and Egypt must avoid any closeness with the PLO, if it wants to improve ties with us."

Memorial for Al-Qawasmi Without West Bank Figures

TA100711 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 10 Feb 85 p 2

[Text] The memorial meeting for assassinated PLO official Fahd al-Qawasmi took place as planned yesterday in Nazareth, but without the mass participation of West Bank Arab leaders who stayed away after warnings and preventive measures by the military government.

The packed meeting in the Nazareth cinema marked the anniversary day after Al-Qawasmi's assassination in Amman and was organized by the Progressive List for Peace. Speakers praised what they termed Al-Qawasmi's moderate views, and described him as a fighter for peace and a Palestinian state. They said such a state is the only solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Earlier, Attorney General Yitzhaq Zamir rejected a request from Likud Knesset Member Michael Eitan that he outlaw the meeting on grounds that it would be a tribute to a member of a terrorist organization.

Scores of West Bank figures invited to the meeting were warned Friday by the military government against attending. More than 50 warnings were issued in Hebron, and an unknown number of people were confronted in Ramallah and Jenin.

Roadblocks were manned throughout the day at various points on the West Bank, including the outskirts of Hebron and Nablus, and along the Jerusalem-Nablus highway. A bus from the Gaza District carrying passengers to a football match was turned back at Nablus. The entrance to the Al-Najah University in the city was blocked following reports of a plan to hold a memorial meeting there.

Prominent West Bank personalities, who served on the 360-member ad hoc committee that called for the Nazareth meeting, did not even try to test the restrictions imposed by the military government. Among those staying away were Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj and former Mayors 'Abd al-Nabi al-Natshah (Hebron), Bassam al-Shak'ah (Nablus), Karim Khalaf (Ramallah), and Rashad al-Shawwa (Gaza).

Leftist MK's Suspected of Trying To Meet 'Arafat

TA0901935 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] A cloak of mystery has enveloped the question of the whereabouts of the two Knesset members [MK's] from the Progressive List for Peace [PLP], Muhammad Mi'ari and Mattityahu Peled. Our Knesset correspondent Ya'agov Ahimei'ir reports that the two MK's may well be abroad now, apparently in an attempt to meet with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, who is currently in Tunis. Our correspondent tried to call MK's Peled and Mi'ari, but relatives were vague about their whereabouts. Thus, the conjecture was that the two are indeed expected to meet with Yasir 'Arafat, or alternatively that they have already done so.

The spokesman for the PLP said this evening that he has no idea where the two can be found. Our correspondent adds that if indeed MK's Mi'ari and Peled meet with 'Arafat, this will be in connection with events marking the death of Fahd al-Qawasimi. Our correspondent was told last night that MK Peled was expected to address the memorial ceremony for Al-Qawasimi held today in Nazareth, but that neither he nor MK Mi'ari arrived at the memorial.

The family of economist Dr Ya'agov Arnon, a leader of the PLP, has also reported that he is out of the country, but no one knows where he is. Our correspondent tried to telephone journalist Uri Avneri [editor of *HA'OLAM HAZE*], but there was no answer. Nonetheless, it should be emphasized that the suggestion of a meeting between the leaders of the PLP and 'Arafat is, right now, only speculation.

Leader Meeting Requested

TA1009134 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0915 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Four members of the Progressive List for Peace [PLP] — Mattityahu Peled, Muhammad Mi'ari, Uri Avneri, and Ya'agov Arnon — met with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat in Tunis over the weekend. Our correspondent Ilana Dayan learned about the meeting from unofficial sources in the PLP who, in turn, heard about it this morning in a telephone conversation with a Knesset man in Europe. The four are to return to Israel this evening.

MK's Seek MIA Information

TA1018111 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] A delegation of the Progressive List for Peace [PLP] has met with PLO Leader Yasir 'Arafat, and received assurances from him regarding information on missing IDF soldiers. Upon their return, the delegation members held an impromptu news conference at the airport, just outside the arrival gate. Our correspondent Dan Eshel was there.

[Begin recording] [Eshel] Against the backdrop of the shouts of the many demonstrators who congregated around them, Knesset Member [MK] Matti Peled read an announcement to which the delegation members attributed great importance.

[Peled] After the murder of Fahd al-Qawasimi, MK Mi'ari and I approached the defense minister with the request that the burial of Fahd al-Qawasimi in Hebron be allowed [shouts heard in the background, saying "God forbid"]. The response to this, in writing, was [shouting from the crowd, saying "We will bury him in Tunis", followed by laughter] that [shouting from the crowd, "there are cemeteries in Tunis, too"] if the PLO furnishes us with information on soldiers missing since the war in Lebanon — information to which he has access — the burial of Fahd al-Qawasimi in Hebron will be permitted. We presented this to 'Arafat, who promised that in a few days we will receive this information. We hope that upon receipt of this information, the government will fulfill its part of the commitment, and will allow Fahd al-Qawasimi to be buried in Hebron.

[Eshel] For a moment it looked as though it would be impossible to carry on with the news conference. [indistinct catcalls in the background] Once sports calmed, or alternatively when curiosity got the better of the crowd that had gathered, delegation member Uri Avneri reported more details on the meeting with 'Arafat.

[Avneri] The two sides expressed their view that the best way to obtain a just peace is by holding an international peace conference, under the auspices of the United Nations, with the participation of all the pertinent bodies — led by Israel and the PLO — as proposed by the UN secretary general, based on a UN resolution.

[Eshel] Replying to my question on the demand by some MK's to remove the immunity of the delegation members, Uri Avneri said: "We violated no law."

[Avneri] The attorney general stipulated unambiguously that these meetings between us and Yasir 'Arafat are in accordance with Israeli law, and therefore the very demand is ludicrous. [end recording]

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1800 GMT on 10 February] reports on the above, adding that the members of the delegation "refused to tell where they had met with 'Arafat," and reporting that "the police had prevented the two Knesset members from holding a news conference at the VIP lounge of Ben-Gurion Airport, so they had to conduct it from the private gate at the airport, surrounded by an angry crowd."

Al-Qawasmi Burial Position Clarified

TA101955 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1935 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] With reference to the news conference held this evening by the members of the Progressive List for Peace, the defense minister's communications and information adviser clarified that the defense minister's position on the missing soldiers remains that only when they are returned to Israel will the burial of Fahd al-Qawasmi in Hebron be permitted.

Cabinet Discusses Tahub, Mk-Arafat Meeting

TA101713 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Peres today appealed to the attorney general that he examine the political appointments in government companies, and requested that the ministers shelve such appointments until he receives the opinion of the attorney general. The foreign minister briefed the Cabinet on the talks held in Beersheba on an interim arrangement in Tahub; the prime minister denied that he had intervened in the course of the talks. During the discussion on the crisis in agriculture, the Likud and the Alignment ministers exchanged accusations regarding who was responsible for the crisis. Our political correspondent reports:

Foreign Minister Shamir reported on the Tahub talks in Beersheba. He said the atmosphere was good and the discussions factual. Shamir stressed that the Egyptian reports on the talks were optimistic in the beginning, and now they tend more toward pessimism. No date has been set for future contacts. Minister Cohen asked if the reports that the prime minister intervened in the course of the talks were true. Peres answered that only the fact that there were such reports was true. Instructions to the Israeli delegation were given in a discussion in which I participated, together with the foreign and defense ministers, Peres said.

Minister Pat asked the foreign minister if he knows anything about the meeting of Peled and Meari with 'Arafat in Tunis. Shamir's brief reply was: We have nothing to discuss with Arafat.

Government circles interpret this to mean the government did not know about the planned meeting in Tunis.

Border Police Force Moves From Sidon to Tyre

TA091705 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] A Border Police force that had been in Sidon since the beginning of the war, has already left the town and joined the Border Police unit in the Tyre area. Our correspondent Gabi Zohar reports that according to an IDF request the unit will also operate in Tyre in the future.

In this context, the Border Police have published statistics on their operations in Lebanon. Since the beginning of the war, three soldiers were captured, some 1,000 terrorists, about 1,000 weapons, and about 700 RPG rockets and Katyushas were seized.

Since the beginning of the war, 55 Border Policemen have been killed in Lebanon, and 36 have been wounded.

Attacks on IDF Forces in Tyre Area Continue

Two Attack Attempts

TA081245 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] This morning there were two more attempts to attack our forces in the Tyre area. A local inhabitant was slightly wounded. Our correspondent Gabi Zohar reports that in one incident, shots from the Burj Al-Shamali refugee camp were directed at an IDF position in the town. The IDF returned the fire. An hour later, a mine planted at the side of the road exploded near IDF's al-Bayyadah, on the coastal highway. A local inhabitant was slightly wounded by the explosion. During the night small arms fire was directed at IDF positions in Jwayya and Al-Mashrafiyah but there were no casualties.

RPG Wounds IDF Soldier

TA100518 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] An IDF soldier sustained light injuries last night when an RPG was fired at a position in Burj al-Shamali in the Tyre area. The soldier was treated on the spot. Our correspondent Gabi Zohar reports that last night there were renewed attacks on IDF and army of southern Lebanon [ASL] soldiers, but there were no casualties. An RPG was fired at an IDF position near Al-Sikkarayah, and an RPG and light weapons fire were directed at an ASL position 3 km west of Al-Nabatiyah. Here too, reports say, there were no casualties.

IDF Suffers Further Casualties in Southern Lebanon

1 Killed, 1 Wounded

TA101713 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] One IDF soldier was killed this morning and three others suffered slight injuries in an incident in southern Lebanon. The family of the deceased has been notified. The IDF spokesman reported that light arms fire was directed from an orchard at an IDF patrol commander's jeep near Al-Qulaylah in the western sector. The IDF is searching the area. Our correspondent Gabi Zohar notes that recently the number of attempts to attack soldiers in the border belt has increased.

2 Killed in Explosion

TA102017 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1600 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Two soldiers were killed and two others were wounded, one of them seriously, when a booby-trapped car exploded near a military vehicle in which they were traveling in the Jezzine area in southern Lebanon. The incident occurred at 1300 hours today. The dead soldiers are Sergeant Major Reserve Yehuda Ben-Ami, 31, from Kfar Yehoshua, and Sergeant Major Reserve Yehuda Ben-Shushan, 31, from Ramat Gan. The wounded soldiers are Sergeant Major Reserve Yehuda Ben-Ami, 31, from Kfar Yehoshua, and Sergeant Major Reserve Yehuda Ben-Shushan, 31, from Ramat Gan.

away from the entrance gate to Lebanon east of Metulla. The soldiers' families have been informed. The IDF carried out searches in the area.

Lahd on Shi'ites in Sidon After IDF Withdrawal

TA0911644 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] The commander of the army of southern Lebanon, General Antoine Lahd, says he has information indicating that Shi'ite members of the Amal militia, terrorists, and the Druze are currently enlisting forces in the Al-Kharrub region, which they plan later to dispatch to Sidon following the withdrawal of the IDF. He said he would remove his own soldiers from Sidon 1 week prior to the completion of the IDF withdrawal, although he emphasized that his soldiers will continue to guard the Christian settlements in the region, and will be stationed at roadblocks east of Sidon, near Jazzin, ad near the Al-Awwali River.

ASL To Deploy on Strip Along Border

TA0811445 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1440 GMT 8 Feb 85

[" Announcement by the Spokesman for the Defense Minister's Office" — ITIM headline]

[Text] Jerusalem, 8 Feb (ITIM) — Responding to questions by reporters, security sources clarified today that at the end of the redeployment, the IDF will be deployed along the international border between Israel and Lebanon, while maintaining an area in southern Lebanon in which local forces (the army of southern Lebanon) — backed by the IDF — will operate. This is the policy the Cabinet approved at its session on 14 January 1985.

Shi'ites Leave ASL Due to IDF Withdrawal

TA1011837 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1810 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Southern Lebanon, 10 Feb (ITIM) — Recently, 25 Shi'ite soldiers of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] have left this army following the Israeli Government's decision to implement a phased withdrawal to the international border.

Sources in the ASL spoke with the ITIM correspondent in the south following reports on this issue by foreign news agencies to the effect that there is a wave of desertion from the ASL. They said that the number of deserters is negligible, and reference is only to soldiers whose families are living in the Sidon area, which is soon to be evacuated by the IDF.

The ASL is aware of this problem, which makes it difficult for the soldiers to remain stationed in their units. Therefore, they do not pose difficulties to those who are leaving and enable them to leave after returning all their equipment and documents. Most deserters promised that they would not join any local militia that would operate against the IDF and the ASL.

Sharon Proposes Sale of State-Owned Companies

TA0815430 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon is proposing that all government-owned companies be sold and that the money be used to develop new industries. In his opinion, the government's trade [sahar] is also obsolete, and he does not want to see the state buying meat, fuel, and seeds. The industry and trade minister also proposes that a free market economy be established in Israel, that foreign currency controls be abolished, and that taxes on income be cut. He was speaking at the economic club of the Herut Movement in Haifa, and his remarks were reported by our correspondent Haviva Roger.

Action To Prevent Arab 'Theft' of Frequencies

TA1012000 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 10 Feb 85 p 20

[Report by economic correspondent]

[Text] Satellite relay stations, of the most sophisticated types in the world, will operate in Israel beginning January 1986, to prevent the "theft" by the Arabs of frequencies belonging to Israel. This was said by the director general of the Ministry of Communications, Yoram Elitzur.

The fear is that the Arabs will take advantage of the new Arab satellite (Arabsat) to "steal" frequencies belonging to Israel in accordance with international charters. Because of this, Israel has retired from the international communications satellite company Intelsat six modern relay stations to facilitate the efficient use of groups of frequencies used by Israel. These relay stations will make possible the high-quality broadcasting of television, radio, and telephone calls.

ALGERIA

Ghana's Rawlings Arrives on Official Visit

LD102323 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1850 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Ghanaian head of state and Chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, arrived in Algiers this afternoon. He was welcomed by President Chadli Bendjedid, Politburo and government members, and representatives of the diplomatic corps accredited to Algiers.

In a short statement to the press, Flight Lt Rawlings expressed his satisfaction and pride at being the guest of Algeria. He added that numerous fields exist in which bilateral cooperation can be strengthend to the mutual advantage of the two countries and Africa.

President Rawlings is accompanied by a large delegation comprising the ministers of foreign affairs and finance and the official [as heard] from the Defense Ministry.

Algerian-Ghanaian political talks began this afternoon under the chairmanship of the two heads of state.

Further Reportage on Visit of SRV's Giap

Meets With Ministers

LD091641 Algiers APS in French 1200 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] Algiers, 9 Feb (APS) — General Vo Nguyen Giap, a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, who is continuing his visit to Algeria, has had talks with the Foreign Affairs Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi on international policy issues of common interest and on bilateral relations.

The talks with Heavy Industry Minister Salim Saadi dealt notably with the willingness of the two countries to exchange experience and identify possibilities with a view to strengthening relations in the trade and industrial sectors.

Prime Minister Concludes Talks in Tunisia

LD110410 Algiers APS in English 1007 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Tunis, 10 Feb (APS) — The visit that the Algerian Prime Minister Mr Abdelhamid Brahimi is paying to Tunisia was marked by the signing of two documents.

A proceedings of the political talks that the prime minister had with his Tunisian counterpart Mohamed Mzali was signed by the two ministers.

A protocol of agreement relating to the delegation of the double fiscal taxation was signed by the deputy minister in charge of budget of domains, Mustapha Benabdel and Salah Mbarki, Tunisian minister of finance.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Meets Saudi King's Envoy

LD101046 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0900 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Tripoli, 10 Feb (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution received 'Ali Musallam, the personal envoy of King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, monarch of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Burkinabe Envoy

LD100742 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0215 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution received yesterday (Manaza Kourier), the special envoy of Captain Thomas Sankara, president of the National Revolution Council in Burkina Faso.

Egyptian 'Patriots' Attack Israeli Embassy

LD110819 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0748 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Text] The Defeated Capital, 11 Feb (JANA) — Egyptian patriots last night carried out an attempt to destroy the embassy of the Zionist enemy in the Defeated Capital. Reuter, quoting eyewitnesses and police sources, said an unknown person hurled a hand grenade from a speeding car on a 12-story building housing the Zionist embassy, but the grenade hit the adjacent building, causing damages which have not been ascertained yet.

Palestinian Officials Arrive in Tripoli 10 Feb

LD111005 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0900 GMT 11 Feb 85

[Text] Tripoli, 11 Feb (JANA) — Brothers Abu Musa, [he is] Musa Muraghi [member of the Fatah revolutionary command], Ahmad Jibril, secretary general of the PFLP, and Samir Ghoshah, secretary general of the Popular Struggle Front, arrived last night in Tripoli.

'Suspicious' Movements by U.S. in Chad

LD101847 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Excerpt] At a time when the economic and social situation is deteriorating in a tragic way in Chad as a result of the starvation which is closing in on a number of regions there, and as a result of the repressive measures of the insurgent Habre, there are reports that the American Government is carrying out suspicious movements under the cover of oil exploration and tourist operations in the Far East, southern Chad. These movements aim to find a foothold for the United States there in order to tighten control over the south and to destroy the popular revolution raging there. More details in the following report.

The insurgent Habre, in an attempt to consolidate his domination over the south of Chad following the withdrawal of the French

forces, is opening Chad territory to a suspicious American presence. American quarters have admitted that the American Government is currently carrying out work in Chad. The American Exxon oil exploration group has stated that it began exploration and survey work in the Far region, southern Chad. That region has been cut off from the world since the start of the civil war in January 1979. This matter indicates that the Americans are taking cover behind the fictitious oil exploration operations to extend their influence and to perpetuate their military presence in Chad to help the insurgent bunch in Ndjamena who are facing great difficulty in controlling southern Chad.

The Chad National Unity Government, in a statement made over Radio Bardai last January, reported that the American Government is actually constructing a military base close to Far. The statement explained that the purpose of this base is to tighten control over southern Chad and to destroy the raging popular revolution opposed to the group of the insurgent Habre and to any colonial-imperial presence.

MAURITANIA

Algerian Energy Minister Begins Working Visit

AB091200 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] Belkacem Nabi, Algerian minister of energy and petrochemical industries, arrived in Nouakchott yesterday evening at the head of a delegation of his ministry for a working visit. He was welcomed at the airport by Mohamed Fadel Ould Dah, our minister of energy and water supply.

Mr Belkacem told our reporter that his visit is at the invitation of his Mauritanian counterpart and falls within the framework of good relations of cooperation existing between the two countries, particularly in the field of energy. He stated that the visit will afford him the opportunity to convey to the Mauritanian people and their national leaders the feelings of respect and esteem of their Algerian brothers.

Received by Head of State

AB091837 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Text] Colonel Maaouiya Sid Ahmed Ould Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation, yesterday morning received in audience Belkacem Nabi, Algerian minister of energy and petrochemical industries currently on a working and friendly visit to our country.

It is relayed by Hamed Abdallah Hamed of the Mauritanian radio and television service, Belkacem Nabi passed on the Algerian talks with the head of state centered on bilateral cooperation between the two countries in particular in the areas of energy and industry.

He added that they discussed the Nouadhibou oil refinery, the construction in Nouakchott of a natural gas distribution [illegible] Algerian-Mauritanian joint ventures, and trade exchanges between Nouakchott and Algiers.

MOROCCO

King Hassan Requests Return of Ceuta, Melilla

LD090154 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Excerpt] King Hassan of Morocco, in statements to Spanish television, has asked for the return of the Spanish towns in north Africa, Ceuta and Melilla. According to the king, international strategic interests will force the return of the two towns from the moment Spain regains sovereignty over Gibraltar.

[Begin Hassan recording in French fading into superimposed Spanish translation] If Spain gets Gibraltar back, and I hope that it does as soon as possible, we would not be the only ones to ask for Ceuta and Melilla to be returned to Morocco. Many international powers would not accept Spain having two doors to the Straits.

At that time, to ensure a balance in the Mediterranean, we are sure that the Soviet Union would be the first to ask, with us, for the return of Ceuta and Melilla because it would be inconceivable for Spain as a NATO member to possess the three keys to the Straits.

Even if you want to play with the balance of power, you will be forced to return Ceuta and Melilla to us through negotiations, in peace, in cooperation.

We are not people who practice a policy of "go home." There is a population which has been living in Ceuta and Melilla for centuries. We personally believe that by virtue of their personal rights as well as their property, they have a right to peace and to be citizens in these towns, as is the case in the Nordic countries. As you know, in the Nordic countries when one is a citizen of a town, one has the right to vote. A foreigner, after a certain number of years, has the right to vote for the Municipal Council if he is interested in the governing of the town. Sovereignty is something else, naturally, but there are many formulas which could be found. It is not a case of either a "go home" policy or a border [end recording]

SUDAN

Government Council on Ethiopian Jews' Immigration

LD091727 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1720 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] Khartoum, 9 Feb (SUNA) — In a statement today, the National Council for Friendship, Solidarity, and Peace has denied that Ethiopia is primarily responsible for the organization of the immigration of the Ethiopian Jews, the Falashas. The statement pointed to relations between Israel and Ethiopia. The statement asserts that Israel seizes every opportunity to achieve its ambitions in Africa by moving against the Arab world in order to deal a blow to Arab-African solidarity and to [illegible] relations between them.

SPLA Radio: Numayri's March Visit to U.S. 'Unlikely'
EA091720 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] According to the American weekly news magazine *TIME* of 4 February, the head of the May [revolution] regime, Ja'far Numayri is to visit the United States of America next March for annual leave and medical check-up.

Informed sources of the Republican Palace, renamed People's Palace by Numayri when he came to power in May 1969, say it is unlikely that Numayri make the visit because of the mounting opposition in the capital, Khartoum, to his rule.

TUNISIA

Algerian Prime Minister Concludes Official Visit
LD102047 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Algerian Prime Minister Abdelhamid Brahimi left Tunis this morning at the conclusion of an official 3-day visit to Tunisia at the head of an important government and party delegation.

ETHIOPIA

Foreign Affairs Minister Comments on Issues

Arabs Must 'Come Clean'

AU09141 9 Paris AFP in English 1536 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] Addis Ababa, Feb 9 (AFP) — Reactionary Arab states must either "come clean" on whether they regard Ethiopia's troubled northern province of Eritrea as an integral part of Ethiopia or as "an Arab Land", Ethiopian Foreign Minister Goshu Wolde said here.

"Otherwise, Ethiopia and the rest of black Africa will be suspicious of the motives of the Arab governments who have always said they will abide by the charter of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU)," he warned.

Mr Goshu, in a rare and wide-ranging interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE yesterday, was referring in particular to the governments of Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Syria and Morocco, whom Ethiopia accused 10 days ago of backing secessionist guerrillas in Eritrea.

The latest row between Marxist Ethiopia and its traditionally hostile Arab neighbours followed representation by those states at the signing in the Sudanese capital of Khartoum on January 21 of a united front against Ethiopia by three Eritrean separatist movements.

Ethiopia had lashed out powerfully against those countries as being party to an anti-Ethiopian conspiracy and charging they had lent "unlimited assistance" to the secessionists.

"This was an gross violation of all accepted principles of inter-state relations and in pursuit of a grandiose design of expansionism at the expense of Ethiopian unity," the Foreign Affairs Ministry said in a statement.

Analysts here had seen Addis Ababa's strong reaction at the time as a prelude to a serious reappraisal by Ethiopia of its political ties in the Middle East.

In yesterday's interview, Mr Goshu described some of those countries as Ethiopia's "age-old enemies, which for historical and geographical reasons happen to be its neighbours as well".

Referring to the sequestrations or nationalisations in the past of those reactionary Arab states, Mr Goshu likened the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) for disassociating itself in a statement two days ago "from this criminal conspiracy against Ethiopia".

Addis Ababa had expressed anyway to the reported position of a PLO representative at the Khartoum meeting.

On Thursday, the PLO's Addis Ababa office commented when it called the hostility and terrorism by secessionists in Eritrea against the Palestinian people and the PLO fully supported the sovereignty, territorial integrity and revolution of Ethiopia.

"I am sure some of the Arab states implicated could take a similar stand," Mr. Goshu said. "We have not yet had any reactions from the Saudi Government, or Iraq or Syria," he added.

The refusal of some of these countries would convince Ethiopia and the rest of black Africa that they were rejecting their professed attachment to the basic principles of the OAU as they were now "encroaching on the boundaries of black Africa", he warned.

"So the Arabs will have to come clean on this matter and say whether they support the territorial integrity of Ethiopia, whether they do or do not consider that Eritrea — which is the heartland of Ethiopia's culture, history and civilisation — is an integral part of Ethiopia or an Arab land," he said.

Observers here believe that Ethiopia's response to the Arab challenge could be "radical" were it not for its ties with South Yemen and Libya, with whom it is linked in a tripartite Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation, and its improving links with Algeria.

Attacks UNHCR

AU08163 Paris AFP in English 1600 GMT 8 Feb 85

[By Seyoum Ayele]

[Text] Addis Ababa, Feb 8 (AFP) — Ethiopian Foreign Minister Goshu Wolde charged today that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is prejudiced against his country, and accused the agency of involvement in the "abduction" of Ethiopian Jews to Israel.

In an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, Mr Goshu said Ethiopia sees the UNHCR "as an organisation very much biased against the Ethiopian Government" and one that follows "actions and programmes that have always favoured the enemies of Ethiopia".

The Ethiopian minister's remarks, in which he also accused the agency and the high commissioner, Poul Hartling, of violating the body's charter, followed an initial attack on the UNHCR by the Ethiopian envoy to the United Nations in Geneva, Kebbi Kebede, in a newspaper interview published yesterday in Paris.

Accusing the UNHCR of often acting as "an arm of the U.S. Government", Mr. Goshu cited as an example the agency's "collusion" with Sudan and the United States "in the abduction of Ethiopian nationals to Europe and Israel".

This was the first time Soviet-allied Ethiopia has directly criticised the U.N. agency and Washington of involvement with Falasha emigration, the secret airlift that took thousands of Ethiopian Jews to Israel via Sudanese transit centres in Europe.

"European Mirage" in the Arabic edition of Newsweek in November last by reporting Sudan's move, after years of UNHCR denial, that it was playing host to Israeli agents [illegible]

In his interview, U.N. Ambassador Kaffa said Ethiopia had protested to the UNHCR because it had accepted "exaggerated" estimates from officials in Somalia and Sudan concerning the number of refugees in those countries. At the same time, the high commissioner had demanded rigorous proof of figures put forward by Ethiopia, he said.

Mr. Hartling, at a news conference yesterday in Geneva, dismissed the Ethiopian envoy's charges as politically motivated. "We have heard this before", he said.

But today in his interview, Mr. Goshu pressed the Ethiopian attack, saying that it seemed to him that the UNHCR's objective was not to stem the flow of refugees but to encourage their influx across borders.

In the Ethiopian case, the UNHCR was encouraging the "exodus" in collusion with anti-Ethiopian governments and elements — a clear reference to guerrilla movements in the Eritrea and Tigray provinces — instead of "helping these people where they are", he said.

The foreign minister said Ethiopia was also "intrigued" by what he said was the refusal of the UNHCR and the Sudanese authorities to consider visits to Ethiopia refugee camps in eastern Sudan, especially the Kassala area, by diplomats posted in Khartoum.

The government of Mengistu Haile Mariam had information from many sources — governments, non-governmental organizations, West European correspondents and witnesses — that all the Ethiopians who crossed into Sudan, particularly from Tigray Province, wanted to come back, the foreign minister said.

But the Khartoum authorities in cooperation with the UNHCR had "sealed off the Ethiopian Government, access to" it, he added.

Mr. Goshu said he wished to draw the attention of the international community "to this hostile, partisan and wholly uncalled for attitude" of the UNHCR and that of Mr. Hartling.

He also called for "an orderly and immediate repatriation" of Ethiopian refugees from Sudan, asserting that these refugees were being kept there against their will.

This was being done with the aim of increasing assistance to Sudan through the UNHCR, he said.

Worms of Aid 'Scandal'

NC0910351 Paris AFP in English 1044 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Addis Ababa, Feb 9 (AFP) — Ethiopian Foreign Minister Goshu Wolde has warned of "an international scandal of major proportions" after accusing unnamed "irresponsible organizations" overseas of squandering funds raised in the name of Ethiopian famine victims.

"I would like to underscore that most of the donations and much of the assistance pledged (for famine victims) do not find their way to Ethiopia," Mr. Goshu said yesterday in an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

He added that "very large and very substantial" amounts in cash and kind were being raised abroad, particularly in Europe and America, by individuals and charities seeking to aid famine victims in Ethiopia.

Mr. Goshu charged that the resources that did not trickle to the country were either being squandered away by "irresponsible organizations" or diverted for purposes for which they were never intended. "We are even informed that there are some NGO's (non-governmental organizations) who have squandered [illegible] money to refurbish their own headquarters," he said, without saying which organizations he was referring to.

"This is a point that we in Ethiopia take very seriously and the international community has to be aware of this fact so that the genuine humanitarian assistance and genuine humanitarian response of the European and American people is not wasted," Mr. Goshu told AFP.

CAMEROON

Soviet Red Cross Deputy Chairman Visits

AB082100 Dakar PANA in French 1129 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] Yaounde, 8 Feb (CAMNEWS-PANA) — It was officially learned today in the Cameroonian capital that the Cameroonian Red Cross is to participate in the second youth festival which will be organized this year in the Soviet Union. The Cameroonian participation is at the invitation of Dr Ostalsky. Dr Ostalsky, deputy chairman of the Soviet Red Cross currently on a friendly visit in Cameroon, also expressed the Soviet Red Cross President's wish to see "its Cameroonian friends" pay a friendly visit to the Soviet Union.

In the field of bilateral cooperation, the Cameroonian and Soviet Red Cross associations have agreed to build a Red Cross hospital in Cameroon, while maintaining the principle of individual responsibilities. The Cameroonian Red Cross will provide the necessary buildings while its Soviet sister will be responsible for the provision of the necessary equipment and drugs. Dr Simon-Pierre Tchoungui, the president of the Cameroonian Red Cross who participated in the working session between the two organizations, reaffirmed his organization's attachment to peace "this peace upon which Cameroon counts for its advancement."

Concerning the general assembly of the League of Red Cross societies scheduled to take place in Geneva this year, Dr Ostalsky stated that it would discuss the revision of the statute of the league and of the International Red Cross. We have wished this friendly cooperation a new stimulus and further development.

CHAD

New Peace Conference May Be Held in Brazzaville

LD090144 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] We have just received the following news concerning Chad. — A new reconciliation conference in Brazzaville is envisaged. At least this is what an envoy of President Hissein Habre said last night in Khartoum. He further stated that the new following a meeting with President Mobutu that another meeting between Chadian factions could take place. He did not however mention any date, nor did he want to give any details on the negotiations that have [illegible].

Gowara Returns from U.N. Commission on Liberia Intervention

AB100302 Khartoum SUDAN NEWS in French 1430 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Report] Assistant Executive Assistant of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, who returned to Khartoum this morning from New York where he led Chad's delegation to attend a session of the U.N. Security Council, announced that Chad's complaint against Libya is ready to be [illegible] the Chadian people from the [illegible] Libyan aggression.

[Begin Gowara recording] As a matter of fact Chad has not only occupied large parts of our country, but it is also using every means to eliminate the Chadian patriots who have been fighting Chad, beginning with the president of the Republic, Comrade Hissein Habre.

In the meantime all the members of the government were to be murdered on 25 September. Thanks to our vigilant security agencies, this plan could not be carried out. It is following this that the Chadian Government lodged a complaint against Libya to the Security Council. The government was obliged to inform the international community that Libya does not want to refrain from meddling in our affairs and will not stop meddling in our problems. We also wanted to make clear that Chad's [illegible] this case be repeated somewhere else [end recording].

The head of the Chadian diplomacy also took the opportunity of his visit to the United Nations to brief the various representatives of African and friendly nations on Chad's counter-aggression and national reconciliation in Chad. The same steps were brought up to Paris and Geneva during his visits to the headquarters of various relations with the representatives of international organizations in Geneva.

Habre Loses his Abeche To Armed Caravans

AB100930 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 0500 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Report] Caravaneers in the Kanem [illegible] have thrown their full support behind the movement for liberty, for the peoples' unity. The purpose of the movement, which is [illegible] is to overthrow the present [illegible] regime which is responsible for the [illegible] committed by a clique of the Hissein Habre regime in the Chadian National Armed Forces [illegible].

CENTRAL

PCT, CPNS Resign Cabinet Posts on Election

AB090 [illegible] Brazzaville in French 1700 GMT 8 Feb 85

[Text] The CPNS delegation of consultants and advisers to the ministry of agriculture, and the [illegible] technical advisers to the Congolese Labour Party [illegible] of the PCT in charge of [illegible] and the [illegible] of the PCT in charge of [illegible] and the [illegible] of the PCT in charge of [illegible] and the

make an urgent call on the leadership of our party and on our country's researchers to devote more efforts to theoretical activities in order to achieve more impact and more combativeness in the ideological field now facing stronger attacks by the enemies of socialism. Comrade members of the Political Bureau, it is our hope that you will succeed in demonstrating the happiness of Congolese researchers at meeting with their Soviet friends. We wholeheartedly wish that this colloquium will contribute to resolving all these theoretical issues in order to positively enlighten the leadership of our two parties. [end recording]

Speaking on the occasion, Comrade Pierre Nze, head of the party's External Relations Department, stressed that the purpose of this colloquium is to exchange experience in order to achieve a better understanding of the socialist system. He said that the PCT leadership welcomes with satisfaction efforts being made for constant research into the system. He expressed satisfaction with the precious gains resulting from these efforts. Comrade Nze added:

[Begin Nze recording] The political leadership believes that the outcome of this meeting will not only help to [words indistinct] but it will also inspire and guide the actions taken by the two parties in the search for joint action. To improve efficiency in particular, it is up with that topics to be presented at any colloquium be discussed at the previous colloquium. This will enable a more careful preparation and sufficient time for research work. This will also afford researchers enough time to exchange their findings before the colloquium opens. [end recording]

The Soviet Ambassador opened the series of 16 lectures scheduled for the colloquium. The theme of the lecture was Marxism-Leninism and Its Peculiarities in Developing Countries Engaged in Socialism. This afternoon, it was the turn of Comrade Vladimir Gusev-Fedun, who gave a lecture on Stages of the Democratic and Popular Revolution: Traits of Theorization on the Congolese Experience.

Nation To Host Pan-African Peace Conference in Sep

AB091310 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 7 Feb 85

[Text] From September, Brazzaville will host a pan-African conference on peace and solidarity under the auspices of the Congolese Association of Friendship Among Peoples. To this end, a national preparatory commission has been set up under the honorary chairmanship of Comrade Jean Ganga Zawaba, member of the Political Bureau and speaker of the National People's Assembly. Already this morning, this commission held a working meeting in order to draw up a document in connection with the forthcoming meeting of the international preparatory committee, scheduled to take place 17-20 February in Brazzaville.

Apart from Congo, this international committee also includes delegates of international organizations like the United Nations and the World Peace Council as well as several countries of northern southern, central and western Africa.

GABON

Bongo Receives Message From Beninese President

AB091155 Libreville Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 9 Feb 85

[Text] Mathieu Kerekou has written to Omar Bongo. The bearer of the message from the Beninese president to the head of state is Frederic Affo, the Beninese foreign minister. He arrived in our capital yesterday.

ZAIRE

Joint Communique on Visit by Angolan President

AB101504 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 10 Feb 85

[Joint Angola-Zaire communique issued in Kinshasa on 9 February at the end of the official visit of Angolan President José Eduardo dos Santos to Zaire:]

[Text] His Excellency Comrade José Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, accompanied by a high-level delegation, paid an official friendly visit to the Republic of Zaire 6-9 February at the invitation of Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngbendu wa Banga, founding chairman of the MPR and president of the Republic of Zaire.

During this visit the two heads of state held several meetings to broadly exchange ideas on bilateral and international problems. During a banquet hosted in honor of the Angolan president, the two heads of state wanted each other just expressed their determination to jointly contribute toward strengthening the unity and solidarity between the two countries in conformity with the spirit and principles of the Angolan-Zairian communique of 20 February 1976.

The two parties pursued in depth [illegible] the development of bilateral exchanges in the trade, fishing and transport fields.

The two parties vigorously denounced the apartheid policy of South Africa, the illegal occupation of Namibia and of an important part of Angolan territory by South African armed forces. President José Eduardo dos Santos and Mobutu Sese Seko deplored the negative effects of the underdeveloped economic order on the development of third world countries. To set forth it was called for international aid to African countries affected by drought and desertification.

On the bilateral plan, the two sides agreed:

1. To accord to officials and service
2. To accord to the nationals of another one visa
3. To accord to border trade with certain restrictions
4. To proceed to the joint study of [illegible]
5. To accord to health and medical cooperation

I - An education program for 1981-84, which is part of the cultural and scientific agreement signed in Kinshasa on 29 December 1981.

The two parties agreed to very quickly exchange ratification instruments of the general economic, scientific, social, and cultural agreements signed in Luanda on 17 October 1978 and the trade agreement signed in Kinshasa on 25 October 1978.

During his stay in Zaire, the president of the People's Republic of Angola visited the Inga hydroelectric dam, the Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko Bridge on the Zaire River, and the agricultural and industrial complex of the Bas-Zaire town of Nsele.

The talks between the two delegations were held in an atmosphere of great mutual understanding and in a spirit of African fraternity.

The president of the People's Republic of Angola expressed on behalf of his entire delegation and on his own behalf the most sincere gratitude for the warm and fraternal welcome accorded to him by Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, the executive council, and the Zairian people united around the MPR and the government.

His excellency Lieutenant Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, invited Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko and his wife to make an official friendly visit to the People's Republic of Angola. The invitation was accepted and the date for the visit will be fixed through diplomatic channels.

Done in Kinshasa on 9 February 1981.

[illegible]

AM091141 Paris AFP in English 1149 GMT 9 Feb 81

[Text] Kinshasa, Feb 9 (AFP) -- Zaire and Angola today agreed to form a joint commission to oversee security along their 2,500-kilometre (1,560-mile) common border, an official source said here.

The commission is to be set up under the terms of a defence and security agreement signed here yesterday at the end of a three-day visit to Zaire by Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. Under the agreement the two countries undertook not to allow their territory to be used to launch attacks on the other, the source said. "All that has to be done now is to find practical ways of applying" the agreement, Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko told a press conference here. President dos Santos, on his first visit to Zaire, signed a number of other cooperation agreements.

BURKINA

Delegation Visiting UNDP Seeks Economic Ties

GHANA

Arrests Made in Plot To Destabilise Country

CAMEROUN